

US HOUSE VOTES TO RENEW BAN ON ALL-PLASTIC GUNS

Page 3



UNION OFFICIAL: ENGINEER CAUGHT HIMSELF NODDING

Page 4



Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Wednesday, December 4, 2013

MOTOR CITY MELTDOWN

BILL VLASIC

MONICA DAVEY

© 2013 New York Times

DETROIT - Detroit is eligible to shed billions in debt in the largest U.S. public bankruptcy, a federal judge ruled Tuesday, while also finding that the public pensions could be reduced during reorganization despite a provision in Michigan's Constitution.



An abandoned train station is seen in Detroit. Detroit became the largest American city ever to qualify for bankruptcy protection on Tuesday, December 3, 2013.

(F. Costantini/New York Times)

In ruling that Detroit was eligible to reorganize under federal bankruptcy law, Judge Steven W. Rhodes said the city met every test of insolvency, including failing to pay its debts and being unable to provide a minimum level of basic services to its 680,000 residents.

"This once proud and prosperous city can't pay its debts," the judge said. "It's insolvent. It's eligible for bankruptcy. But it also has an opportunity for a fresh start."

Continued on page 3

POSITIVE PROGNOSIS



President Barack Obama pauses as he speaks about the new health care law, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013, in the South Court Auditorium in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building on the White House complex in Washington. The president said his signature health care law "is working and will work into the future."

(AP Photo/ Evan Vucci)

Obama Declares Health Care Law Is Working

JULIE PACE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seeking to regroup from his health care law's disastrous rollout, President Barack Obama on Tuesday insisted that the sweeping overhaul is working and warned Republican critics that he would fight any efforts to strip away its protections.

Related Stories

"We're not repealing it as long as I'm president," Obama said during a health care event at the

White House. "If I have to fight another three years to make sure this law works, then that's what I'll do." Earlier Tuesday, the administration released a 50-state report saying that nearly 1.5 million people were found eligible for Medicaid during October.

As website problems depressed sign-ups for subsidized private coverage, that safety-net program for low-income people saw a nearly 16 percent increase in states that have agreed

to expand it, according to the Department of Health and Human Services.

The White House is trying to cast the health care law in a positive light after the first two months of enrollment for the centerpiece insurance exchanges were marred with technical problems.

With the majority of problems with the sign-up website resolved, by the accounting of administration officials, Obama and his team plan to spend much

of December trying to remind Americans why the administration fought for the law in the first place.

"We believe that in America, nobody should have to worry about going broke because somebody in their family or they got sick," Obama said, flanked by people the White House says have benefited from the law.

Continued on page 3

Biden, in Japan, calibrates message over tensions with China

MARK LANDLER

JANE PERLEZ

© 2013 New York Times

TOKYO - Vice President Joe Biden delivered a carefully calibrated show of support for Japan on Tuesday, expressing concerns about China's move to control airspace over disputed islands in the East China Sea but stopping short of a demand that Beijing reverse itself. Instead, he urged the feuding neighbors to talk to each other.

Biden's statement, at the start of an unexpectedly challenging trip to Asia that is next taking him to Beijing, captured the complexities for the United States as it navigates a bitter standoff between Japan and China over territorial claims - a dispute it wishes to neither mediate nor see escalate into violence.

China's air defense identification zone, Biden said after meeting with Japanese leaders, is an effort to "unilaterally change the status quo in the East China Sea" that raises "the risk of accidents and miscalculation." He said he would bring up these concerns in detail when he met with the Chinese leadership.

But with China unlikely to rescind a move so laden

with nationalistic overtones, the vice president's focus appeared to be less on rolling back the defense zone than on neutralizing its impact by persuading the Chinese authorities to stop scrambling fighter jets

ing that it "will not affect the freedom of overflight, based on international laws, of other countries' aircraft."

The statement said that the Chinese military was "fully capable" of exercis-

to pose no threat to us, but necessary surveillance is needed."

In Tokyo, Biden said that China and Japan needed "crisis management mechanisms and effective channels of communication" to

dent said as a grave-looking Prime Minister Shinzo Abe stood next to him.

The Japanese government has called for China to roll back the restricted zone. But Abe, perhaps seeking to project unity with Biden, did not repeat that demand Tuesday. He said the United States and Japan had reaffirmed that they would not alter any joint military operations in the area, and added, "We will not condone any action that will threaten the safety of civilian aircraft."

That appeared to be an attempt to smooth over a disconnect between the United States and Japan over the weekend, after the Federal Aviation Administration advised U.S. carriers to identify themselves when entering the restricted zone. The Japanese government has instructed its carriers to ignore the Chinese demand. Administration officials insisted there was no daylight between the United States and Japan on how to respond to China's move.

"Nothing that FAA has done constitutes any acceptance or recognition of this," said a senior administration official who is traveling with Biden. "The U.S. has clearly set forth that our military aircraft will continue to operate normally." Administration officials said Biden would urge China not to create any other such zones and to show restraint in policing this one. By treating the zone as irrelevant, U.S. officials hope to reduce the Chinese government's incentive to declare zones in the South China Sea or the Yellow Sea, where it has other territorial disputes.

The Japanese government perceives the defense zone as an attempt by the Chinese to assert control over a cluster of disputed islands, known in Japan as the Senkaku and in China as the Diaoyu. Japan has a long-established air defense identification zone that covers much of the East China Sea, including those islands. □



U.S. Vice President Joe Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe smile together during a joint press conference following their meeting at Abe's official residence in Tokyo Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013. (AP Photo/Koji Sasahara)

or otherwise disrupting the busy air corridors between Japan and China.

China, likewise, seemed eager to defuse tensions. On the eve of Biden's visit, the Defense Ministry issued an unusual clarification on the defense zone, declar-

ing control over the zone, which covers a wide swath of the East China Sea, but it added that such deterrence would not always be needed.

"Fighter planes are unnecessary," it said, "when an entering aircraft is found

avoid the risk of miscalculation.

The countries have discussed a hotline, but the talks have gone nowhere. "The only conflict that is worse than one that is intended is one that is unintended," the vice presi-

Shell floats hull of enormous rig "Prelude"

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Royal Dutch Shell PLC says it has completed building the hull of the world's largest floating facility, which has been constructed to process natural gas off the coast of western Australia. Shell said Tuesday that the 488-meter (1,600 foot) hull of the structure, known as "Prelude," was floated out of the dry dock in Geoje, South Korea where it is being built.

Prelude is designed to take in the equivalent of 110,000 barrels of oil per day in natural gas and cool it into liquefied natural gas for transport and sale in Asia. It will float above gas fields. Shell says it can remain in place through a category 5 cyclone.

Construction began last year, three years after the project was announced. Gas production is slated to begin in 2017. □



In this photo provided by Shell, the floating facility "Prelude" lies in the shipyard of Samsung Heavy Industry in Geoje, South Korea. The 488-meter (1,600 foot) hull of the structure was floated out of the dry dock where it is being built in Geoje, Royal Dutch Shell PLC said Tuesday. (AP Photo/Shell International N.V.)

Obama insists his health care law is working

Continued from Front

Despite Obama's sunny presentation, officials are furiously working behind the scenes to rectify an unresolved issue with enrollment data that could become a significant headache after the first of the year. Insurers say much of the enrollment data they're receiving is practically useless, meaning some consumers might not be able to get access to benefits on Jan. 1, the date their coverage is scheduled to take effect.

The troubled rollout of the insurance exchanges has contributed to a drop in Obama's overall job approval rating, while also emboldening Republicans and putting Democratic lawmakers facing re-election on edge.

White House officials say that with the worst of the website problems behind them, the president will return to a familiar political argument: criticizing Republicans for opposing the "Obamacare" law without providing their own ideas for solving national health care woes.

"They sure haven't presented an alternative," Obama said. "You've got to tell us specifically what you'd do."

Despite the website troubles, the White House says it is buoyed by high online traffic.

On Monday, officials said, the site received about 1 million visitors, though they would not detail how many of those had actually enrolled for insurance policies.

Medicaid sign-ups are proceeding on a separate track.

While subsidized private coverage is available to middle class people in all 50 states, the expanded version of Medicaid currently is provided only in states that agreed to accept it. So far 25 states and Washington, D.C., have done so. □

US House votes to renew all-plastic gun ban

ALICIA A. CALDWELL

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. House of Representatives voted Tuesday to renew a 25-year-old prohibition against firearms that can evade metal detectors and X-ray machines just as 3-D printers are increasingly able to produce plastic weapons.

On a voice vote, the House passed a bill extending the Undetectable Firearms Act for another decade. .

The Senate is expected to act on the legislation when it returns from a two-week holiday recess next Monday, a day before the current law expires.

Sen. Charles Schumer, a leading Democrat, said he and others will try then to add a new requirement that at least one component of the firing mechanism contain enough metal to be detectable in a magnetometer and also be undetectable.

But with the National Rifle Association opposed to any change in the statute and many Democrats eager to avoid a new fight over gun controls going into an election year, the Senate is more likely to just pass the House version unamended. The House bill only requires that a plastic gun have some piece of metal in or on it, but it can be removable and doesn't have to be used to fire the weapon.

"The House bill is better than nothing, but not by much," Schumer said Tuesday. "...

It's certainly not enough." Schumer said plastic guns were "the thing of science fiction" when the ban was first passed in 1988 but such weapons are now a worrisome reality.

Brian Malte, a director of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, said his group's worries about the availability of plastic guns are "no reason to hold up renewal."

The use of 3-D printers to manufacture guns re-

librator pistol, which he says he designed. Wilson, founder of Defense Distributed, a nonprofit that advocates the free distribution of information on 3-D printed weapons, was ordered by the State Department to take down the instructions after two days because of allegedly violating arms export controls, he said.

By then, the plans had already been downloaded more than 100,000 times

you, your computer and your 3-D printer. Anyone can make this gun," Wilson said Monday.

Lawmakers and law enforcement officials alike have long been concerned that technological advances could allow for the production of guns that don't have any metal, first passing the ban on such weapons in 1988 under President Ronald Reagan. It has been renewed twice since then.



House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) after a House vote on an expiring gun law, at the Capitol in Washington, Dec. 3, 2013. The House voted overwhelmingly on Tuesday to extend a law banning firearms that can pass undetected through X-ray machines, but did not include provisions regulating guns made with 3-D printers.

(Gabriella Demczuk/The New York Times)

ceived heightened attention in May when Cody Wilson, then a University of Texas law student, posted blueprints online for using the printers to make the

and they remain available on file-sharing websites, he said.

"If you want to do this, it's plainly obvious there's no one standing between

Today 3-D printers can spray repeated, thin layers of plastic or other materials to create objects from toys to automobile parts to medical devices. □

Judge rules Detroit is eligible for bankruptcy

Continued from Front

Appeals were expected to be filed quickly. Bruce Babiarz, a spokesman for Detroit's fire and police retirement system, which supports 8,500 retirees, said lawyers were reviewing the ruling and expected to file an appeal by the end of the week. But the case will continue to move forward, with the next step being the city filing a "plan of adjustment."

Under the ruling, the vastly diminished city, once the nation's fourth largest and the cradle of the U.S. auto industry, will be allowed to search for a way to pay off some portion of its debts and to restore essential services to tolerable levels under court supervision. The goal, according to Kevyn Orr, an emergency manager appointed by the state of Michigan, is to emerge from court protection next year with a formal plan for starting over.

"Time is of the essence, and we will continue to move forward as quickly and efficiently as possible," Orr said Tuesday.

In his ruling, Rhodes turned aside objections from unions, pension funds and retirees, which, like other creditors, could lose under any plan to solve \$18 billion in long-term liabilities, including \$3.5 billion in unfunded pension obligations.

The filing makes Detroit the largest city in the nation's

history to take such a rare step.

Detroit's mayor-elect, Mike Duggan, said Tuesday was a day that no one wanted to see, but that the city needed to move forward.

"We need to make sure the retirees are treated fairly on the pensions they earned," he said, "and we need to make certain we come out of bankruptcy in a way we can afford to provide the quality of city services the people of Detroit deserve." □

Union official says train engineer 'nodded'

JIM FITZGERALD

TOM HAYS

Associated Press

YONKERS, New York (AP)

— The engineer in a commuter-train derailment that killed four people over the weekend caught himself nodding at the controls just before the wreck, a union official said Tuesday.

William Rockefeller "caught himself, but he caught himself too late," said Anthony Bottalico, leader of the rail employees union, relating what he said Rockefeller told him.

During a late-afternoon news conference, federal investigators said they were still talking to Rockefeller, and they would not comment on his level of alertness around the time of the Sunday morning wreck in the Bronx.

Rockefeller's lawyer did not immediately return calls. Questions about Rockefeller's role mounted

rapidly after investigators disclosed on Monday that the Metro-North Railroad train jumped the tracks after going into a curve at 82 mph (132 kph), or nearly three times the speed limit.

In addition to the four people killed, dozens were injured. National Transportation Safety Board member Earl Weener said Tuesday that it was too soon to say whether the accident was

the result of human error or a mechanical problem. But he said investigators have found no evidence so far of any problems with the brakes or signals.

Alcohol tests on the train's

crew members were negative, and investigators were still awaiting the results of drug tests, the NTSB official said.

On the day of the crash, Rockefeller was on the second day of five-day work week, reporting for duty at 5:04 a.m. after a typical, nine-hour shift the day before, according to Weener.

"There's every indication that he would have had time to get full restorative sleep," Weener said.

But Bottalico said Rockefeller had switched just weeks earlier from the night shift to the day shift, "so he did have a change in his hours and his circadian rhythms with regard to sleep."

The New York Police Department is conducting its own investigation, with help from the Bronx district attorney's office, in the event the derailment becomes a criminal case. □



In this photo taken on Sunday, Dec. 1, 2013, Metro North Railroad engineer William Rockefeller is wheeled on a stretcher away from the area where the commuter train he was operating derailed in the Bronx borough of New York. The engineer in a commuter-train derailment that killed four people over the weekend caught himself nodding at the controls just before the wreck, a union official said Tuesday.

(AP Photo/Robert Stolarik)



Wild CASH Wednesday

- Win your share of -

\$500 in Cash Prizes!

Earn one Free Entry Ticket for every 50 Points earned today from 10am to 10pm.

Cash Prize Raffles from 10:30pm to 11:30pm!

Where Aruba goes to play!

Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 • 583.5000 • www.casinoalhambra.com

Must be an Alhambra Advantage member. All programs and promotions are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice.

Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS

Supreme Court considers frequent flier contracts



A pedestrian walks past the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington in November, 2013.
(Gabriella Demczuk/The New York Times)

WASHINGTON - Rabbi S. Binyomin Ginsberg used to fly often enough on Northwest Airlines that he achieved Platinum Elite status, the highest level. But the airline revoked his membership in its frequent flier program in June 2008, saying he had abused it by making too many complaints and by booking himself on full flights in the hope of being bumped. On Tuesday, the Supreme Court considered Ginsberg's suit against the airline. He contends that Northwest's move was an effort to purge an expensive program in advance of its merger with Delta Air Lines. Northwest says its contracts with Ginsberg and other customers give it the right to cancel memberships for abuse "in its sole judgment." Several justices seemed concerned that the contract governing Northwest's frequent flier program was either illusory, as Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg put it, or subject to the airline's "whim and caprice," in Justice Sonia Sotomayor's words. But a federal law, the Air-

line Deregulation Act of 1978, limits the kinds of lawsuits that disgruntled travelers may file. The law sought to bring competition to the airline industry, in part by ensuring that states would not adopt their own regulations. It therefore displaced, or pre-empted, state laws and policies "related to a price, route or service of an air carrier." Justice Stephen G. Breyer summarized the competing interests in the case before the court, Northwest Inc. v. Ginsberg, No. 12-462. "A free market in price is at the heart of the Deregulation Act," Breyer said, and "frequent flier programs are simply price discounts." "If you don't have contracts, you can't have free markets," he added. "But I also think the states cannot, under the guise of contract law, regulate the prices of airlines." In 1995, consistent with those distinctions, the Supreme Court carved out routine breach of contract claims from the 1978 law's pre-emption requirement in American Airlines v. Wolens. In Ginsberg's case, the trial court addressed

but dismissed his claim for breach of contract, citing the part of the contract that gave Northwest

complete discretion to kick people out of its program. The court also rejected three other legal theories, saying they were pre-empted by the 1978 law. Ginsberg appealed only one part of the trial court's decision, which had dismissed on pre-emption grounds his claim for breach of an implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, in San Francisco, reversed that part of the trial court's decision and allowed Ginsberg's suit to proceed, reasoning that the remaining theory did not relate to prices, routes or services; did not interfere with the federal law's "deregulatory mandate"; and was merely an attempt to enforce private contractual obligations. □

Enjoy our
much celebrated
**3-Course
Dinner Special!**

Appetizer	Entrée	Dessert
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish Soup • Onion Soup • Conch Fritters • Escargot • Salad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fresh Catch of the Day prepared by our local chef just the way you like it. • Jumbo Shrimp from our local waters, breaded served with potato or rice or with garlic tossed over linguine. • Filet Mignon* 8 oz. US Tenderloin • Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chocolate or Banana Cake • Ice Cream • Coffee / Tea
3-course dinner <big>\$25.95</big> per person		

This special cannot be used with any other promotions, vouchers or certificates.





25th ANNIVERSARY

Open daily from 5:00pm - 10:30pm (closed on Sundays)
For reservations call: 583-2515 - Klipstraat 12, Downtown.
www.driftwoodaruba.com • driftwood@setamet.aw

**ARUBA
OSTRICH
FARM**



• Eat, drink, tour and relax
• Fresh home cooked meals
• Open from 9' am - 4' pm
• Hotel transfers available

**20% OFF
TOUR PRICE IF YOU
STAY FOR LUNCH.**



No reservations
needed for
SMALL GROUPS

Hotel transfer available!
Tel: 585-9630
BRING THIS AD AND RECEIVE THE TOUR
HALF PRICE WITH YOUR LUNCH

BENLO CIGARS

Import & Export • We ship all over the world • Tel.: 5863555
Located in the Arowak Garden, next to Salt & Pepper,
Paparazzi and Tango Restaurant.

We are specialized in premium Cuban Cigars.
Opening hours: Mon. - Sat. 8:30am - 11:00pm
Sunday 9:00am - 11:00pm

Depending on purchase, we have discounts starting from 5% up to 20%.
With purchase of \$20 or more 1 FREE CIGAR

Bring this coupon for your free Cuban Cigar!



Sail along Aruba's scenic coastline and enjoy the sunset followed by a Caribbean buffet catered by award-winning chefs.

Wednesday from 5:30 to 8:30 pm

Book now! www.redsailaruba.com or by phone: (+297) 586-1603



Caribbean Cocktails



Great food



Something different

BP notches win in bid to block gulf spill settlement payments

MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A federal appeals court has handed BP another victory in its bid to block what could be hundreds of millions of dollars in settlement payments to Gulf Coast businesses following the company's 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

A three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Monday that a judge must reconsider BP

lars to residents and businesses affected by the spill. For months, and on several different fronts, BP has been attacking Barbier's interpretation of its multibillion-dollar settlement with a team of private plaintiffs' attorneys. In October, the same 5th Circuit panel overturned Barbier's earlier rulings on the dispute over payouts to businesses.

BP had argued Barbier and court-appointed claims administrator Patrick Ju-

and the plaintiffs' lawyers had agreed on an "objective and specific method of proving whether or not a loss was caused by the oil spill." And losses for businesses located in certain areas were presumed to be caused by the spill under the settlement's terms, the judge added last month. Barbier wrote that it would not only be unreasonable to expect thousands of claimants to prove losses were directly traced to the spill, but that doing so would defeat the purpose of a class settlement. In a court filing, plaintiffs' attorneys accused BP of taking settlement terms "out of context and in isolation" in arguing that businesses must meet certain "subjective and as-yet-undefined" requirements to qualify for settlement payments.

On Monday, the divided 5th Circuit panel directed Barbier to craft an order that will allow businesses who can trace their losses to the spill to continue receiving payments, but that will ensure those who cannot trace their losses to the spill don't receive compensation until the case is resolved.

5th Circuit Judge James Dennis, who wrote a dissenting opinion in October, once again disagreed with his two other colleagues on the panel and expressed support for Barbier's reasoning. Dennis said he believes BP's causation arguments "clearly did not survive the parties' settlement agreement." In a court filing last month, BP attorneys complained that Juneau has awarded at least \$76 million to dozens of claimants whose losses were caused by something other than the spill. □



Kurt Mix, center, arrives at the Hale Boggs Federal Building in New Orleans, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013. The former BP drilling engineer is charged with deleting text messages and voicemails about the company's response to its massive 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. (AP Photo/Jonathan Bachman)

PLC's arguments that the settlement shouldn't compensate businesses if their losses can't be directly traced to the nation's worst offshore oil spill. The panel said U.S. District Judge Carl Barbier erred last month in refusing to consider the company's "causation" arguments. The spill occurred after BP's Macondo well blew out in April 2010, causing the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig to explode, killing 11 workers. Millions of gallons (liters) of oil spewed into the Gulf, with crude soiling shoreline and beaches from Louisiana to Florida. So far, the oil giant has paid out billions of dol-

lars to residents and businesses affected by the spill. For months, and on several different fronts, BP has been attacking Barbier's interpretation of its multibillion-dollar settlement with a team of private plaintiffs' attorneys. In October, the same 5th Circuit panel overturned Barbier's earlier rulings on the dispute over payouts to businesses.

BP had argued Barbier and court-appointed claims administrator Patrick Ju-

As U.S. slides, Asian nations dominate in global PISA test

KIMBERLY HEFLING
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Teens from Asian nations dominated a global exam given to 15-year-olds while U.S. students showed little improvement and failed to reach the top 20 in math, science or reading, according to test results released Tuesday..

Students in Shanghai, China's largest city, had the top scores in all subjects, and Singapore, South Korea, Japan and Hong Kong students weren't far behind. Even Vietnam, which had its students participate for the first time, had a higher average score in math and science than the United States.

These results again raise the question of whether the United States is consistently outperformed because of the widely varied backgrounds of its students. Some are from low-income households, for example. Others don't have English as their primary language.

But some countries that outperform the United States also experience such challenges.

About half a million students in 65 nations and educational systems took part in the 2012 Program for International Student Assessment, or PISA, which is coordinated by the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, or OECD.

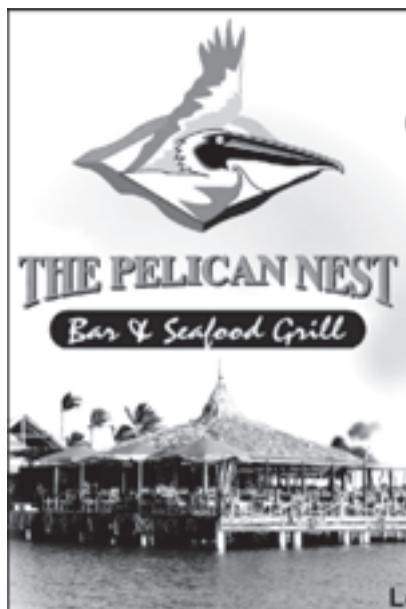
Most results come from a sampling of scores from countries as a whole, but in China it was given in select regions. The U.S. Education Department's National Center for Education Statistics released the results. The test, given every three years to 15-year-olds, is designed to assess students' problem-solving skills.

U.S. scores on the PISA haven't changed much since testing started in 2000, even as students in countries like Ireland and Poland have shown improvement and surpassed U.S. students. Irish Education Minister Ruairí Quinn said the results reflected improvements among Ireland's lower-achieving students, even as the country's top students underperformed compared to those in other countries. Tom Loveless, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, cautions about reading too much into the results from Shanghai, which also dominated the test in 2009. The students tested are children of the elite. They are the ones allowed to attend municipal schools because of restrictions such as those that keep many migrant children out, he said.

"The Shanghai scores frankly to me are difficult to interpret," Loveless said. "They are almost meaningless." But Jack Buckley, commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics, said U.S. officials have not seen any evidence of a "biased sample" of students tested in Shanghai. If the entire nation was included, he said it's unclear what the results would show.

Tucker said Shanghai has worked hard to bring migrant children into its schools and has put an emphasis on improving teacher quality — a factor helping to drive its test scores.

In the education community, Finland has drawn notice for its past test performance, but this year its average PISA score dropped in all three subjects, most pronounced in math. Finland's students did better on average than those from the United States. □



Early Bird Dinner

Come & see the spectacular Sunset & receive a 10% discount on your dinner, between 5:30 & 7 pm, by presenting this Ad.

Our menu offer an impressive selection of Fresh Seafood

(caught daily by our own fleet), International Dishes and a relaxing Atmosphere.

DAILY HAPPY HOUR

at our Captain's Morgan Bar from 4 - 6 pm \$4 Bar.

Open from 11 am - 10 pm

For Reservations call: 5862259

Located between Holiday Inn Hotel & Playa Linda Resort www.pelican-aruba.com



US Financial Front:

Cyber Monday draws \$1.74B billion holiday dollars



A FedEx employee sorts packages at the FedEx hub at Los Angeles International Airport in Los Angeles. Millions of Americans took advantage of online deals ranging from free shipping to hundreds of dollars off electronics and half-price clothing Monday, which was officially the biggest online shopping day of the year since 2010.

(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

MAE ANDERSON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Cyber Monday is still on top.

Retailers from Wal-Mart Stores to Amazon started rolling out "Cyber" deals at the beginning of November, and kept them going. That led some to wonder if earlier sales would put a dent in Cyber Monday sales. The date has been the biggest online shopping day of the year since 2010.

But shoppers delivered. In fact, shoppers bought online at the heaviest rate ever Monday, according to research firm comScore Inc., which tracks online sales.

The group said Tuesday e-commerce spending rose 18 percent from last year's Cyber Monday to \$1.74 billion, making Monday the top online spending day

since comScore began tracking the data in 2001. The figure does not include purchases from mobile devices.

The strong online performance was in contrast to overall spending. Over the four days beginning on Thanksgiving, spending fell an estimated 2.9 percent to \$57.4 billion, according to the trade group the National Retail Federation. Overall, the NRF expects holiday spending to rise 2.9 percent to \$602.1 billion.

"Any notion that Cyber Monday is declining in importance appears to be completely unfounded," comScore Chairman Gian Fulgoni said in a statement Tuesday. "While it's true that many retailers are bleeding their Cyber Monday promotions into the weekend before and the days afterward, Cyber

Monday itself continues to be the most important day of the online holiday shopping season."

However, he did say that early promotions had some consumers buying more items earlier in the weekend, suggesting that Cyber Monday could have even been stronger were it not for the emergence of this trend.

Consumer electronics and video game consoles and accessories were among

the biggest sellers of the day. Home and garden products, clothing and accessories, as well as sports and fitness products also performed well.

ComScore tracks U.S. online sales based on observed behavior of a representative U.S. consumer panel of 1 million Web users.

One big online shopping trend so far this year is shoppers researching and buying on mobile devices like smartphones and tablets, said Forrester Research analyst Sucharita Mulpuru.

"There was an enormous lift in the number of people who use mobile devices, and it's been trending that way for the last couple of weeks," she said. Forrester forecasts \$78.7 billion in U.S. online sales this holiday season, a 15 percent increase over 2012.

Meanwhile, IBM Benchmark reported on Tuesday that Cyber Monday sales rose 20.6 percent. □

NO LOSERS
Slot Tournament

EVERYONE'S A WINNER!

IT'S FREE!
EVERY WEDNESDAY
AT 7:00PM

**OVER \$1,500 IN FREE SLOT
PLAY & CASH PRIZES!**

Join us for our "No Losers" Slot Tournament, when everyone who plays is guaranteed \$10 IN FREE SLOT PLAY. Plus, the top 5 winners will receive great cash and free play prizes!



TROPICANA ENTERTAINMENT CASINOS | TROPICANACASINOS.COM

MONTBLEU

TROPICANA

TROPICANA





Celebrating our 27th anniversary with YOU!
Present this Ad receive \$10 discount per couple

SPECIAL OF THE WEEK

- Beach & Cave Tour
- Wet'n Wild - Jeep Tour

Pelican Pier (between Holiday Inn and Playa Linda Resort), Holiday Inn Towel Hut Center, Holiday Inn Concierge, Holiday Inn Lobby, Westin Aruba Poolside, Westin Aruba Lower Lobby, Casa Del Mar Beach Resort.

Or book online at www.pelican-aruba.com



For reservation call:
5872302 or 5861455 (Sundays)

Ukrainian government survives confidence vote

DAVID M. HERZENHORN

ANDREW E. KRAMER

© 2013 New York Times

KIEV, Ukraine — Refusing to grant a central demand of protesters who have laid siege to public buildings and occupied a landmark plaza in this rattled capital,

ernment.

The failure of the no-confidence vote pushed the battle for the future of Ukraine back onto the streets, where demonstrators and political opposition leaders allied with them say they will not relent until

ment of the president and dismissal of the government," said Oleksiy Ivanikov, 35, a construction engineer who was in a crowd of protesters with his friends.

In response to Parliament's refusal to act, demonstra-

cess to the headquarters of the presidential administration, which is heavily guarded by riot police officers. They also plan to try to cordon off Parliament in a bid to paralyze the legislative and executive branches of government.

Leaders of the protest movement, a loose coalition of Ukraine's three main political opposition parties, civic organizations and student groups, said they were digging in for a long fight.

Since the start of demonstrations on Nov. 22, many protesters, especially students, have been skeptical that elected officials would answer their demands, which were a response to Yanukovych's decision not to sign far-reaching political and trade agreements with the European Union that had been in the works for years.

Public anger deepened over brutal tactics used by riot police officers against protesters in Independence Square early Saturday — a display of violence that led to a march and rally by hundreds of thousands of people in Kiev on Sunday, and thousands more in cities around the



Police use buses to prevent protesters from approaching the parliament building in Kiev, Ukraine, Dec. 3, 2013. As protesters continued their siege of government buildings and occupation of a landmark plaza in this rattled capital, President Viktor F. Yanukovich survived a no-confidence vote.

(Sergey Ponomarev/The New York Times)

the Ukrainian Parliament on Tuesday defeated a measure calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Mykola Azarov and his gov-

they succeed in removing the government, including President Viktor F. Yanukovich.

"Our demand is impeach-

tors — who have already blockaded the Cabinet of Ministers building and seized City Hall — said they intended to close off ac-

Judge: Irish police colluded in IRA murder

SYLVIA HUI

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Irish police colluded in the 1989 murder of two senior Northern Ireland police officers by the Irish Republican Army, a judge-led inquiry found Tuesday.

The inquiry looked into the circumstances around the death of Harry Breen and Bob Buchanan, who were ambushed and shot by militants in March 1989 in south Armagh. The two officers, who weren't armed, were attacked when they were crossing the border into Northern Ireland shortly after a meeting in an Irish police station in the town of Dundalk.

In a report, Judge Peter Smithwick, who has spent the past eight years gathering evidence on whether the militants received help in ambushing the two officers, said he was satisfied there was collusion in the murders.

Smithwick concluded that the timing of the murders suggested that the information to trigger the IRA operation was likely leaked from the Dundalk police station, although he didn't put the blame on any individual.

Tuesday's report was the first time that Ireland has confirmed the longtime suspicion among Northern Ireland's Protestant majority that Irish police colluded with the IRA.

Deputy Prime Minister Eamon Gilmore issued an apology to the officers' families, saying he was "appalled and saddened" by the collusion finding.

"For years we have sought to get to the truth about their deaths," Gilmore said in a statement. □

Power fails again in Venezuela, capital goes dark

FABIOLA SANCHEZ

JORGE RUEDA

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — A power outage briefly darkened Venezuela's capital and other parts of the country Monday night in what President Nicolas Maduro said appeared to have been an act of sabotage against his socialist government.

The blackout began shortly after 8 p.m. as Maduro was addressing the nation about his plan to reduce

inflation battering the automotive industry. Within minutes, people in downtown Caracas could be heard banging on pots in an act of protest.

Maduro, deprived of the airwaves, then took to Twitter to say that he and his aides were monitoring the "strange blackout that occurred in the same place as the last act of sabotage." Later, when power was restored, he ordered the armed forces on maximum alert to prevent attacks

that he said were being planned by his opponents against the electric grid and the nation's oil installations.

Maduro in recent days had warned that his opponents might try to sabotage the electrical grid to gain advantage in nationwide elections for mayors taking place Sunday.

The late President Hugo Chavez used to levy the same charge, also without presenting any evidence, as blackouts became more

frequent in recent years. "These sectors of fascism are getting desperate, because they know a defeat is coming," Maduro said in remarks that extended for more than four hours.

Power started coming back on in Caracas within 10 minutes, and Electricity Minister Jesse Chacon later told state television that electricity had been restored to most of the city but was still out in several regions of the country. □

**Location:**

Across the Valero GAS Station
Boulevard by the Aruba's Cruise
Ship Terminal

PROUDLY PRESENTS:
TOURIST FLEA MARKET
& FARMER'S MARKET

- ★ SOUVENIRS ★ ARUBAN CRAFT
- ★ HANDBAGS ★ CIGARS
- ★ T-SHIRT ★ LEATHER GOODS
- ★ HATS, MUGS ★ SUNGLASSES



**MONDAY - SUNDAY
9:00AM TO 7:00PM**

Putin says Russia needs to beef up Arctic presence

V. ISACHENKOV

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday said the U.S. navy's capability in the Arctic is a key reason for Russia to beef up its presence in the region.

Putin said he doesn't envision a conflict between Russia and the United States, but his blunt remarks reflect a wariness of U.S. intentions.

Putin made the comments at a meeting with students after being asked to comment on suggestions that Russia and other countries relinquish Arctic territory to help protect the environment — a proposal Putin angrily rejected.

"Experts know quite well that it takes U.S. missiles 15



Russian President Vladimir Putin attends a meeting of the board of trustees in the Moscow State University in Moscow, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013. At a meeting with students in the Moscow State University Putin said that Russia should beef up its presence in the Arctic for both economic and military reasons.

(AP Photo/Mikhail Metzel)

to 16 minutes to reach Moscow from the Barents Sea," Putin said, referring to the

part of the Arctic Ocean near Russia's shore.

The United States seldom

comments on the presence of its nuclear-armed submarines, but it is thought that they patrol international waters.

Putin described the Arctic region as essential for Russia's economic and security interests.

"There is a huge amount of mineral resources there, including oil and gas," he said. "It's also very important for our defense capability." While emphasizing the need for Russia to cooperate with the United States and other countries, Putin added that Moscow has to take into account the U.S. navy presence.

"I proceed from the assumption that we will never engage in a global conflict, particularly with a country like the United

States," he said. "Just opposite, we must develop cooperation and partnership, and we have every opportunity for that despite arguments. But the submarines are there, and they do carry missiles."

The Russian military has been restoring a Soviet-era military base on the New Siberian Islands that was shut down after the Soviet collapse. Russian officials said the facility is key for protecting shipping routes that link Europe with the Pacific region across the Arctic Ocean.

In September, a Russian navy squadron led by a nuclear-powered cruiser, visited the archipelago, which occupies a strategic position on the Arctic shipping route. □

Japan proposes more steps to store Fukushima water

MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — A government panel proposed additional measures to lessen the radioactive water crisis at Japan's crippled nuclear power plant, saying Tuesday that current plans are not enough to prevent the risk of a disaster.

Officials on the Industry Ministry's contaminated water panel also said that the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant could run out of storage space for contaminated water within two years if current plans are not fully workable.

A draft report, made available to reporters after the panel's experts and officials met, proposes covering the ground with asphalt to reduce rain inflow, building giant tanks and other steps.

A final report is expected later this month.

The proposal incorporates ideas from some of 780 sets of proposals sent from around the world at the request of the ministry to seek international expertise in tackling the problem of massive amounts of radioactive water, which experts say is hampering the plant's decommissioning process. The first step of the process began last month. Radioactive water has been leaking from the damaged reactors and mixing with groundwater since an earthquake and tsunami in 2011 destroyed the plant's power and cooling systems, causing three reactors to melt and damaging a fourth reactor building.

Experts say that the underground water that flows into the reactor and turbine basements is mostly rainwater, which can be reduced by covering most

exposed dirt with asphalt in the plant compound. Details, including the extent of asphalt coverage, still need to be discussed, panel official Yoshiyuki Toyoguchi said.

Experts also cautioned that decreasing the amount of groundwater could cause the ground to sink in some areas with soft structure. Such vulnerable locations include the area where

hundreds of tanks have been built to contain highly radioactive water, said Hitoshi Tsukamoto, a geologist at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology. □

The Blue Lobster
INTERNATIONAL CUISINE & LOBSTER HOUSE

Where Aruba eats lobster!

Great taste is now affordable!

Enjoy the best that the ocean has to offer. From shrimps to lobster or indulge with delicious meats, you can now have a complete 3 course dinner for only \$38.90.

Offer includes APPETIZER, MAIN DISH & DESSERT.

Special valid only on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, on Sunday food Dollar prices BECOME GULDERS

Reserve today by calling us at 586 3843 or 586 4788

\$ 38.90 p.p.

3 course dinner

The Blue Lobster
Palm Beach 164A, Aruba
+ 297 586 3843

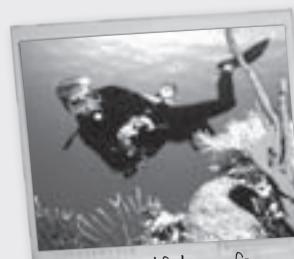
info@arubabluelobster.com
www.arubabluelobster.com

red sail sports
Scuba Diving

Exploring Aruba's underwater world is our Specialty; from beginner programs to dives aboard our custom-designed boats.

For certified divers and beginners!

Book now! www.redsalaruba.com or by phone: (+297) 586-1603



Report:

US vet detained in North Korea oversaw guerrilla group

FOSTER KLUG

HYUNG-JIN KIM

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) —

An 85-year-old U.S. veteran being held in North Korea

spent his war years there in one of the Army's first special forces unit, helping a clandestine group of Korean partisans who were fighting and spying well be-

hind enemy lines. Now South Koreans who served with Merrill Newman, who is beginning his sixth week in detention, say their unit was perhaps the

most hated and feared by the North and his association with them may be the reason he's being held.

"Why did he go to North Korea?" asked Park Boo Seo, a former member of unit known in Korea as Ku-wol, which is still loathed in Pyongyang and glorified in Seoul for the damage it inflicted on the North during the war. "The North Koreans still gnash their teeth at the Ku-wol unit."

Some of those guerrillas, interviewed this week by The Associated Press, remember Newman as a handsome, thin American lieutenant who got them rice, clothes and weapons during the later stages of the 1950-53 war, but largely left the fighting to them.

Newman was scheduled to visit South Korea to meet former Ku-wol fighters following his North Korea trip. Park said about 30 elderly former guerrillas, some carrying bouquets of flowers, waited in vain for several hours for him at Incheon International Airport, west of Seoul, on Oct. 27 before news of his detention was released.

Newman appeared over the weekend on North Korean state TV apologizing for alleged wartime crimes in what was widely seen as a coerced statement.

Park and several other former guerrillas said they recognized Newman from his past visits to Seoul in 2003 and 2010 — when they ate raw fish and drank soju, Korean liquor — and from the TV footage, which was also broadcast in South Korea. Newman's family has not been in touch with him, but he was visited at a Pyongyang hotel by the Swedish ambassador, his family said in a statement, and he appeared to be in

good health, receiving his heart medicine and being checked by medical personnel.

His family hasn't responded to requests for comment on his wartime activities. Jeffrey Newman has previously said that his father, an avid traveler and retired finance executive from California, had always wanted to return to the country where he fought during the Korean War.

Newman served in the U.S. Army's 8240th unit, also known as the White Tigers, whose missions remained classified until the 1990s.

Retired Col. Ben Malcom says he served in the unit during a different period than Newman, and didn't know him. But he later wrote a book about their work detailing how the U.S. supplied weapons, ammunition, food and American advisers to an anti-communist guerrilla force in North Korea. He said some were outfitted with North Korean military uniforms complete with weapons and identification cards to work as spies. Others were trained as paratroopers.

Malcom said his openness about the unit's work during the war, including a book, a History Channel documentary and many interviews, would preclude him from even considering visiting North Korea.

"I would never go back to North Korea," he said. "They know me."

But another veteran from the unit, Mickey Parrish, 83, in Jacksonville, Florida, who also didn't remember Newman, said he didn't think that their service in what was the Army's first special forces unit 60 years ago would be cause for additional concern if visiting North Korea. □



Park Young, center, a former member of the Ku-wol partisan unit and his comrades look at a website reporting on Merrill Newman, an elderly American tourist detained in North Korea, at the Ku-wol partisan unit association office in Seoul, South Korea. Six decades before he went to North Korea as a curious tourist, Newman supervised the group of South Korean guerrillas during the Korean War who were perhaps the most hated and feared fighters in the North, former members of the group said.

(AP Photo/Ahn Young-joon)

Promenade
RESTAURANT FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1997

• Walking distance
• No Service Charge
• Exceptional Sunday Brunch





L.G. Smith Blvd. 160, Oranjestad, Aruba
Near the Low Rise Hotels
Reservations: (297) 583-8899
Open: Tuesday - Sunday
Hours: 5:00pm - 10:00pm
Sunday Brunch: 11:00am - 3:00pm
www.promenadearuba.com





on the spot! You pick the Catch - Our Chef will grill it, just the way you like it!

SUNDAYS FRESH FISH BBQ BUFFET

Fish as fresh as it gets! from the sea...on your plate! **\$30 PP**

Kids half price

Breakfast 8am - 11am
Lunch 11am - 5pm
Dinner 5pm - 11pm

Located between Marriott's Surf Club and Moomba beach...
 Right on the beach! Call (+297) 586 2288
www.hadicurari.com

Seafood with a view
Hadicurari
 Restaurant at the Fisherman's Pier - Aruba



French expert report: No proof Arafat was poisoned

ELAINE GANLEY

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — French scientists looking into the death of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat have dismissed poisoning by radioactive polonium, his widow announced Tuesday. The results contradict earlier findings by a Swiss lab, and mean it's still unclear how Arafat died nine years ago. Teams of scientists from three countries were appointed to determine whether polonium played a role in his death in a French military hospital in 2004. Palestinians have long suspected Israel of poisoning him, which Israel denies.

After a 2012 report that traces of radioactive polonium were found on Arafat's clothing, Arafat's widow filed a legal complaint in France seeking an investigation into whether he was murdered.

As part of that investigation, French investigators had Arafat's remains exhumed and ordered ge-

Swiss team issued their report.

The French experts found traces of polonium but



Suha Arafat, left, flanked with his French Lawyer Pierre Olivier Sur attend a press conference in Paris, France, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's widow says extensive investigation by French scientists has ruled out poisoning by radioactive polonium.

AP Photo/Jacques Brinon

netic, toxicology, medical, anatomical and radiation tests on them. Suha Arafat and her lawyers were notified Tuesday of the results, less than a month after the

came to different conclusions than the Swiss about where they came from, finding that it was "of natural environmental origin," Suha Arafat said.

The French finding "dismisses the hypothesis of poisoning by polonium-210," she said.

The Swiss scientists said they found elevated traces of polonium-210 and lead, and that the timeframe of Arafat's illness and death was consistent with poisoning from ingesting polonium.

Arafat's widow and her legal team attributed the difference to the potential role of radioactive radon gas around the burial cloth and body in the tomb. Its presence was detected and measured by both the French and the Swiss. Radon, which is found naturally, transforms into polonium in a naturally occurring process.

Arafat and her lawyers

reached the conclusion after consulting private experts to help them understand the French report.

"There is a doubt," Arafat said. "Is it the poisoned body that contaminated the immediate external environment — the Swiss thesis — or the opposite, is it the external environment, the radioactive radon gas, that explains the presence of polonium-210 in the body — the French thesis?" Pierre-Olivier Sur, Suha Arafat's French lawyer, said he will ask the three investigating magistrates handling the case to include the Swiss report in the probe and compare them. He said he would like to see a meeting of the Swiss and French scientists to hash out differences. □

UN: Hunger reduction in Latam improves

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — Some 47 million people suffer from hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean, 3 million fewer than in the last survey, which covered an earlier three-year period, the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization said on Tuesday.

Slow economic growth and high levels of inequality are still impeding hunger reduction in the region, FAO said in a report released in the Chilean capital.

Economic growth during the 2000s "allowed for more job creation and increased income, but growth itself has not been able to meet the huge needs and inequalities of the region," FAO said in its Panorama of Food and Nutritional Secu-

rity 2013. Haiti, Guatemala, Paraguay, Nicaragua and Bolivia suffer the highest rates of hunger.

The region, however, has made strides in the reduction of poverty and FAO says 16 countries have reached a target to reduce by half the number of people that suffer hunger. The FAO said Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Venezuela, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines have already met its definition for the eradication of hunger, with 5 percent or less of the population living in hunger. "If efforts are doubled and the positive economic and social tendencies are held, it's possible that this gen-

eration of Latin Americans and Caribbeans will be the first one in history to see hunger and malnutrition eradicated," the report said. Agricultural commodities remain a key source of income for the region, which produces more food than required for its population. FAO says none of the nations should lack the minimum caloric quantities needed per person.

Still, many go hungry even as about 23 percent of adults and 7 percent of children in the pre-school level are overweight.

"Overweight and obesity are spreading like a pandemic," it said. The FAO said that should be considered an urgent public health problem. □

WACKY WAHOO'S
 PALM BEACH #33-A WWW.WACKYWAHOOS.COM
STEAK, SEAFOOD, B.B.Q. & FUN!

Ex-Hadicurari BBQ & Grill with the same owner's.
 We do our own daily fishing so we serve the freshest seafood on the Island.

Very reasonable price, exciting menu and

NO SERVICE CHARGE

Dinner from 5:30 - 10:00

Monday - Saturday



FRESH CATCH & SEAFOOD

We are located close to the High-rise hotel's at walking distance.

RESERVATION SUGGESTED

TEL: 586-7333



Global Trends:

Employers stepping in to prevent worker burnout

DANICA KIRKA**Associated Press**

LONDON (AP) — Volkswagen turns off some employees' email 30 minutes after their shifts end. Goldman Sachs is urging junior staff to take weekends off. BMW is planning new rules that will keep workers from being contacted after hours.

This surge in corporate beneficence isn't an indication that employers are becoming kinder and gentler: It's about the bottom line. After years in which the ease of instant communication via e-mail and smartphones allowed bosses to place greater and greater demands on white-collar workers, some companies are beginning to set limits, recognizing that successful employees must be able to escape from work. "Industry is now responding," said Cary Cooper, a professor of organizational psychology and health at Lancaster University, who says the imperative to be constantly reachable by iPhone or tablet is taking a toll on the work delivered at the office. "Employees are turning up, but they're not delivering anything."

After seeing colleagues lose their jobs during the Great Recession, workers are more inclined to come in to work, even when sick, surveys show. After hours, physical presence is replaced by the next best thing — a virtual one. Many employees fear switching off, instead deciding to work on vacation, during dinner and in bed with the help of smart phones, laptops and tablet computers. People also have more data than ever to process — whether they ask for it or not. Information overload cost American businesses just under \$1 trillion in employee time lost to needless emails and other distractions in 2010, according to Jonathan Spira, chief analyst of the New York research firm, Basex.

The cost of replacing employees who leave in search of better work conditions is also a concern. A

study from the Center for American Progress put the cost of turnover at just over a fifth of the employee's salary for people making up to \$75,000 a year. That goes up exponentially for top managers, with turnover costs as high as 213 percent of salary for very highly paid positions. After worrying about trimming staff numbers during the recession, employers are focusing on how to keep those who are left from burning out.

"The goal is for our analysts to want to be here for a career," said David Solomon, global head of investment banking at Goldman Sachs. "This is a marathon, not a sprint."

Work conditions in banking came under scrutiny after an intern at Bank of America Merrill Lynch in London died from an epileptic seizure that may have been brought on by fatigue. The case prompted the bank to review work conditions for junior employees.

said Cooper, the professor. "We will lose them to companies with better work/life balance, where they don't have to work 19-hour days."

INFORMATION OVERLOAD

Though technology has helped boost worker productivity over the past few decades, it has come with related costs, like stress. Technology, for example, is eliminating the downtime or slack that used to be built into the day — such as the time one took going to

protection as hourly workers do.

"So it's as the Red Queen said in 'Through the Looking-Glass,' it takes all the running you can do to keep in the same place," Tenner said.

Companies haven't yet come to grips with how bad it is, said Spira, the analyst. Information overload has decreased people's ability to manage thoughts and ideas. Fixing it means changing company culture — such as the idea that



Quirky CEO Ben Kaufman oversees his employees at company headquarters, in New York. Kaufman created a staff "blackout week" once each quarter in which no one besides the company's customer service representatives are allowed to work. The company shepherds inventions to the marketplace.

(AP Photo/Kathy Willens)

JOB SAFETY

One strategy, which Goldman Sachs has been trying, is to make people feel less at risk in their jobs. That's not easy in most companies, much less so in investment banking, infamous for its competitive environment and grueling work hours.

To keep junior analysts from burning out in the attempt to prove their worth, the bank has decided to start hiring first-year analysts as permanent employees, instead of taking them on as contract workers. It is also encouraging them to not work weekends.

But it isn't just the junior staff. Last month, Hector Sants, a senior executive brought in to help London-based Barclays bank overcome a costly scandal, resigned after a leave of absence due to stress and exhaustion. The chief executive officer of Lloyds Bank, Antonio Horta Osorio, took time out in 2011. The CEO AkzoNobel, a Dutch paint and coatings company, did the same last year.

"The HR people now talk about regrettable turnover. We cannot afford to lose our best people because we have fewer people,"

the library to do research that can now be completed online, says Edward Tenner, author of "Why Things Bite Back: Technology and the Revenge of Unintended Consequences." Those minutes used to act as a buffer that prevented people from working constantly. Though physical exhaustion in traditional enterprises was bad, conflicting mental demands can be more problematic, Tenner says, particularly in the United States, where professional workers often don't have union contracts or the same legal overtime

dozens of people need to be cc-ed on a given email. "Almost every organization is burying its head in the sand," said Spira, the author of "Overload!: How Too Much Information is Hazardous to Your Organization."

It is hard for a company to control the amount of technology used in the workplace and at home since it is so integral to modern life. Volkswagen addressed the issue in a blunt, if effective, manner — by deactivating some workers' email accounts once their shifts were over. □

LOCAL Aruba TODAY

Diamonds International sends three lucky Arubians on a trip of a lifetime!

ORANJESTAD - Last month three Diamonds International employees, Jesse, Theo and Peter embarked on a trip of a lifetime to Namibia, Africa. Rewarded for their hard work and focus with the company's best-selling brand the Crown of Light Diamond. Diamonds International sent them to join 17 colleagues from other islands on an all expenses paid 5-Star trip.

Starting with an epic journey across the Atlantic, taking the travelers on pit stops that included New York, Amsterdam and Johannesburg, they reached their destination in Namibia, only to be whisked away on a private plane destined for the DeBeers owned Oranjemund Dia-



mond Mine. Here they experienced firsthand where diamonds come from and how they are extracted from the ground. This was followed the next day by a trip to the country's capital Windhoek, to visit DeBeers Namibia. The team was left in awe by the Diamond Sorting area, where tables upon tables stretched out before them covered with rough diamond stones. They completed their day with a visit to the cutting factory, where skilled workers turn rough stones into the stunning Crown of Light

diamond. Diamonds International's facility employs from the town of Windhoek and surrounding villages, training Namibians to become skilled diamond cutters, mappers and polishers and forging careers and new opportunities for the local community. Trip-winner Theo commented ". I was fascinated at how it takes a whole village to cut one Crown of Light diamond, giving the Crown of Light a new meaning and value. I feel even more inspired and compelled to support the Crown of Light

brand knowing how each diamond sale gives back to those people in Namibia"

The following days the group experienced the awesome and unique attractions of Wild Africa, journeying to Sossusvlei where they scaled the Namib Dunes and to the Erindi Game Reserve to complete their big African Adventure with a wildlife safari, "It was so incredible seeing the animal kingdom in its raw form. Experiencing a lion up close and seeing how a croco-



dile caught its prey, only to have it snatched the next second by a group of hyenas" spoke Theo. Af-



ter an exciting day animal spotting on the plains the group checked into a five-star lodge with a restaurant and deck that overlooks a watering-hole, frequented by the all the animals of the reserve, dining with their fellow colleagues as they watched elephants, giraffe, zebra and rhino approach the pool for a drink.

The final stage of this amazing journey was a heartfelt and humbling visit to Diamonds International sponsored orphanage Baby Haven. This child care facility welcomes orphaned infants and children who have been diagnosed with HIV. The facility was created to support the children's basic needs as well as bringing the human touch with new toys and games. In this way, the innocent little ones of Namibia are given a chance to thrive, and once again, to be carefree children.

And this year the children were in for a big surprise, the week prior to the trip all the employees from Diamonds International Aruba donated new clothes and toys stuffing an oversize suitcase full of gifts.

Continued on Page 15

Tansey Family honored at the Aruba Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino



PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice family whom are loyal and

friendly Visitors of Aruba, at the Aruba Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino, as Distinguished Visitors.

The symbolic honorary title

is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years.



The honorees were the Tansey family from New Jersey, Mr. Patrick and Mrs. Lauren Tansey and Mr. Brian Tansy. The Tansey family are loyal guests of the Marriott Resort and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, and Aruba feels like a second home, the employees at the Marriott

are like a family to them most specially Verna Dijkhoff and the Resort is their home away from home. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Ms. Verna Dijkhoff representing the Aruba Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino. □

Beauty On The Beach

Veronica Eid
Loves Aruba coming from Barquisimeto Venezuela

She is visiting us for more the ten years, staying at the Divi Village

WINNER OF TRIP ADVISOR'S CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE 2012
Best Lobster House and International Cuisine's Restaurant

The Blue Lobster
INTERNATIONAL CUISINE & LOBSTER HOUSE
Phone: 586-3843

BON DIA Arub

TIRA BO SUSHI DEN BARI, TENE ARUBA LIMPI...

Steve Savage performing at The Sopranos Piano Bar Aruba

PALM BEACH - Steve Savage has returned to Aruba to perform at The Sopranos Piano Bar at Arawak Gardens, J.E. Irausquin 368, where he'll be performing through the end of December. Steve hails from the gut of America's rock 'n roll heritage, New Jersey. For the past two years he has traveled the world performing throughout the USA, Asia and the Caribbean. Steve discovered the dueling piano bar circuit while studying music in Boston, where he still performs frequently. He was quickly enamored with the high-energy concept.

Steve's vocal and piano styles are influenced heavily by Bruce Springsteen, James Taylor, Elton John, Stevie Wonder and Ray Charles. He delivers a high-energy, interactive show that draws from a diverse repertoire of music spanning the past 60 years, including standards, Motown, 1980s hair-metal, classic rock, Top 40 hits — even disco, country and hip hop. Most recently, Steve has split his time between performing dueling piano gigs around the USA and solo piano bar gigs aboard the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line, where he remains one of the highest-rated players in the fleet. He performs Sunday through Friday from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. □



HOME OF
Epic Burger
OPEN FOR LUNCH,
DINNER & LATE NIGHT
SNACKS

Continued from Page 13

"These children are raised in an environment of hand-me-down clothes, inheriting the outfits of the older children as they grow, to have their own, new clothes – intended only for them, means the world" said Peter.

On returning back to Aruba, Store Manager Peter said, "Words cannot express our trip to Namibia, truly incredible and absolutely a once in a lifetime experience. It was very special to meet our colleagues from around the Caribbean, learning about other cultures and identifying with all these other people who work for the same cause for the same company every day – we didn't know each other at first, but there was a sense of team spirit from day 1 – we all made some lifelong friends"

Reflecting on the trip after returning home Jesse speaks "The trip was an amazing experience and it was really incredible to realize that we are part of a crew that connects Aruba to Africa. I found it so interesting that in a country



so far, with such a desert climate that not only trees and flowers grow but also diamonds, the most precious stone on earth. I left fascinated by Namibia, the nature and wildlife, the culture, the industry and commerce, but most of all the people – genuine people, that hosted us as visitors so exceptionally"

To learn more about the Crown of Light Diamond and Baby Haven you can visit www.crownoflight.com

Diamonds have helped



celebrate life's' momentous milestones from engagements and weddings, a first child, anniversaries and more, for centuries. And throughout time, diamonds have constantly evolved into more exquisite shapes as cutters sought to increase diamonds' ability to scintillate and bedazzle all who encountered them. Today diamond design has reached its pinnacle with the Crown of Light® Diamond. The exclusive patented diamond is available only at Dia-

monds International® for the world's most demanding collector. A Crown Of



Light diamond has 90 facets. A conventional round diamond has 57 or 58 facets. The facets act like mirrors to reflect light back to the eye of the viewer. So if a diamond has twice the number of facets as a conventional round diamond, it can be handle light in a more spectacular manner. Consider the relationship of the facets to each other, and their shape and size. This all contributes to the light performance of a Crown Of Light Diamond. The relationship of each part creates a masterpiece of brilliance. Experience Crown of Light at Diamonds International locations in downtown Oranjestad and at the Alhambra Casino mall. □



SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

NHL Capsules

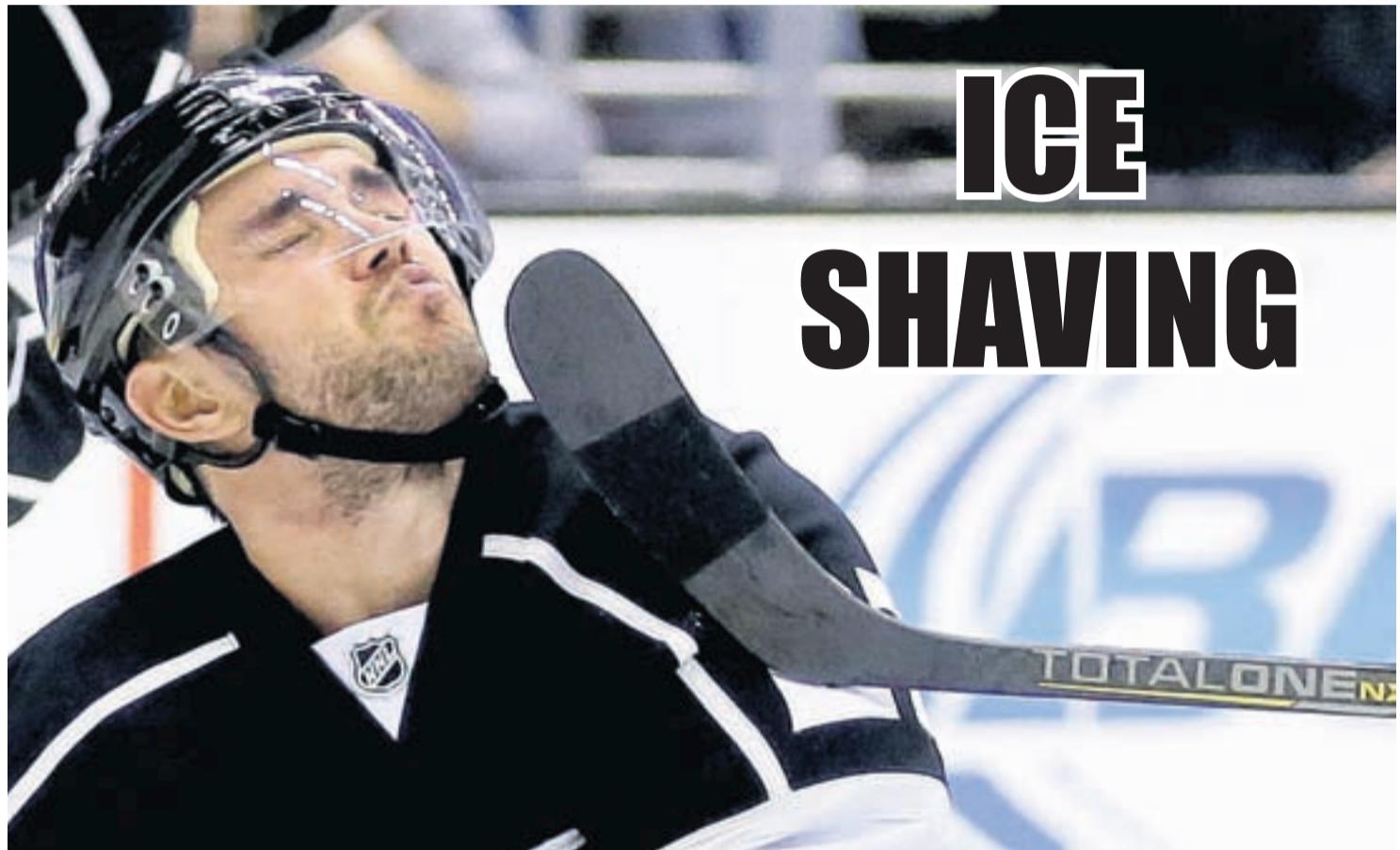
Wild scores twice in 3rd to defeat Flyers 2-0

The Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minnesota (AP) —

Jason Pominville and Charlie Coyle scored 57 seconds apart early in the third period, lifting the Minnesota Wild to a 2-0 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on Monday night. The Wild and Flyers had combined for only 28 shots when Pominville collected Mikko Koivu's pass in the crease and pushed it past a helpless Ray Emery 3:52 into the third period. On the ensuing shift, Coyle tapped a rebound off Jared Spurgeon's slap shot into an empty corner at 4:49. It was an impressive and unexpected flurry in a game that had played out as the statistics predicted. When the puck dropped, the Wild's 17 even-strength goals allowed in 21 games led the NHL; and the Flyers had allowed two or fewer goals in 10 of their past 14 games.

Continued on page 21



Los Angeles Kings defenseman Alec Martinez dodges a stick during the third period of an NHL hockey game against the St. Louis Blues in Los Angeles, Monday, Dec. 2, 2013.

Associated Press

AP Source: Red Sox nearing deal for C A.J. Pierzynski

By HOWARD ULMAN

AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Free-agent catcher A.J. Pierzynski has agreed to a one-year contract with the Boston Red Sox, a person with knowledge of the negotiations said Tuesday.

The deal would be pending a physical. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team hadn't finalized the agreement.

The lefty-hitting Pierzynski and righty David Ross, the backup, both will be 37 next season. With catching prospects Christian Vazquez and Blake Swihart

making their way up the system, the Red Sox were reluctant to give a multi-year deal to free agent Jarrod Saltalamacchia, their starter the past three seasons.

Pierzynski hit .272 with 17 homers and 70 RBIs last season, his only one with the Texas Rangers.

He walked just 11 times and doesn't fit the Red Sox preference for patient hitters who work the count. In 2012, he had 27 homers and 28 walks, both career highs.

He spent the previous eight years with the Chicago White Sox, playing in

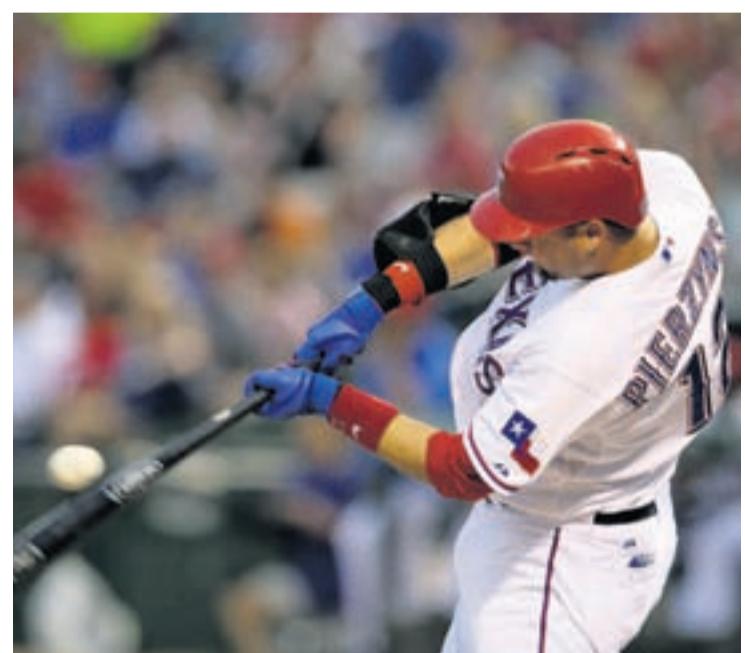
at least 128 games each season, and appeared in all four games when they swept Houston in the 2005 World Series.

A two-time All-Star, Pierzynski has a .283 career average with 172 homers and 800 RBIs.

Saltalamacchia, a switch-hitter, batted .273 with 15 homers and 65 RBIs last season, his highest average since becoming Boston's starting catcher.

But he struck out 139 times in 121 games in each of the past two seasons.

Ross started four of the six games in Boston's World



In this Sept. 13, 2013 file photo, Texas Rangers' A.J. Pierzynski swings at a pitch in the first inning of a baseball game against the Oakland Athletics, in Arlington, Texas.

Associated Press

Series victory over the St. Louis Cardinals. Saltalamacchia went 0 for 6 in the two Series games he played and 6 for 32 (.188) in the postseason. □

NFL Roundup

Seahawks rout Saints 34-7, clinch playoff spot

TIM BOOTH

AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE (AP) -- A couple thousand Seahawks fans were crowded in front of the television stage when Russell Wilson walked out of the locker room still in full uniform.

Instantly, the chant started. "MVP! MVP!"

Hard to argue against Wilson after a performance like Monday night.

Wilson threw for 310 yards and three touchdowns, and the Seahawks became the first team to clinch a spot in the NFC playoffs with a 34-7 victory over the New Orleans Saints. More important than just wrapping up a spot in the postseason, the Seahawks (11-1) moved two games ahead on the rest of the NFC in the race for home-field advantage and hold the tiebreakers over New Orleans (9-3) and Carolina (9-3), the two closest pursuers.

The rest of the top teams better get ready to visit the Pacific Northwest in January. After this rout, the road through the NFC playoffs is almost certain to go through Seattle.

"For us to come out in that fashion and to win that game the way that we did was awesome," Wilson said.

Wilson was outstanding, picking apart the Saints' defense. He threw touchdown passes of 2 yards to Zach Miller and 4 yards to Doug Baldwin in the first half as Seattle built a 27-7 lead. Wilson added a pinball 8-yard TD pass to Derrick Coleman in the third quarter.

Wilson completed 22 of 30 passes and finished with a quarterback rating of 139.6. He has 22 regular-season wins in his first two seasons, tied for the most ever by a second-year QB and is 14-0 at home.

Michael Bennett had a 22-yard fumble return for a touchdown in the first quarter to give Seattle a 10-0 lead and the Saints never threatened. It was a dominating performance by the Seahawks, making up for a lackluster effort the

last time they were given a national television spotlight and were taken to the final yard and final play by St. Louis.

Not this time. The most anticipated game in the NFC this season was a laugher. Drew Brees and the Saints were stymied the entire night as he lost for the first time on Monday night after nine straight wins, and continued the belief New Orleans can't win outdoors late in the season. New Orleans didn't crack 100 yards of total offense into midway through the third quarter. Jimmy Graham was nearly invisible outside of his franchise-record 12th TD catch of the season in the second quarter that pulled the Saints to 17-7.

Brees finished 23 of 38 for 147 yards. Graham had three catches for 42 yards. Darren Sproles led New Orleans with seven catches, many of those check downs. The seven points matched the fewest scored by the Saints since Sean Payton became coach in 2006 and the 188 total yards were the fewest in his coaching tenure.

"Lot of things to look at," Payton said. "Lot of things we didn't do well."

It was K.J. Wright's job to shadow Graham and he hounded the Saints' star all night.

"The coaches told me 'We're going to let you hold (Graham). Just do your job, win on your leverage, trust your guys around you and just play your best game.' That's what I tried to do," Wright said.

The Saints went three-and-out on their first possession and that was just the start of their struggles. On their next possession, Brees was hit from behind by Cliff Avril and fumbled into the arms of Bennett, who returned it for the touchdown.

Brees was unable to take advantage of Seattle's depleted secondary. The Seahawks were without Brandon Browner (injury) and Walter Thurmond (suspension) but Byron Maxwell and Jeremy Lane played well in their places.

"We took one in the chin



Seattle Seahawks' defensive end Michael Bennett returns a fumble for a touchdown against the New Orleans Saints in the first half of an NFL football game, Monday, Dec. 2, 2013, in Seattle.

Associated Press

today," Brees said. "We got out played today. They played great. They made a lot of plays and we didn't."

Seattle used the bye week to add wrinkles to its of-

fense. Wilson was a threat not only passing but running with the zone read again becoming an addition to the playbook. Wilson carried five times in the first half, three of those de-

signed keepers.

But it was his passing that stole the show. Wilson was 14 of 19 in the first half for 226 yards and a rating of 148.1. He found Miller open for a 60-yard catch-and-run early in the second quarter, then capped the drive with a 2-yard touchdown pass to Miller and a 17-0 lead. Wilson later hit Doug Baldwin for 52 yards. Seattle had seven pass completions of 12 or more yards in the first half. The Seahawks finished with 315 first-half yards, the most allowed by the Saints in a first half since 2005 against Minnesota. Baldwin said Seattle saw a specific blitz package from the Saints on film and the Seahawks knew they'd have chances to go downfield. □

Gold Coast Aruba... A Place for You!



Luxury Villas, Town Homes & Condos

Contact us by email at info@goldcoastaruba.com
Tel: +297-586-2200 • Fax: +297-586-2201
Toll Free from the U.S. 1-866-978-5770
www.goldcoastaruba.com

PRICE STARTING FROM \$289,000

Visit us for Your Island Dream Home Ownership
Monthly Mortgage Payments
starting from \$1,650



Gold Coast
Malmok • Aruba

SNUBA



SNUBA and Snorkel Sail \$65

Snorkeling only \$32.50

Tues & Thur 9 - 12 am or 1 - 4 pm

Wed & Fri 9 - 12 am or 12:30 - 3:30 pm

Fruit and soft drinks included



For reservation call 586-0096

Leaving from: Pier between Moomba Beach and Marriott Resort

Duncan's jumper lifts Spurs over Hawks 102-100

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tim Duncan made a jumper with 0.4 seconds left to lift the San Antonio Spurs to a 102-100 victory over the Atlanta Hawks in the NBA on Monday.

NBA Capsules Duncan finished with 23 points and 21 rebounds as San Antonio dominated the middle against the younger and more athletic Atlanta front court. Boris Diaw had 16 points and Tiago Splitter finished with 11.

Atlanta had all five starters score in double figures. Jeff Teague had 19 points, Al Horford added 18 and DeMarre Carroll finished with 17.

The Hawks trailed 98-94 when Paul Millsap made a 3-pointer over Diaw with 17.5 seconds remaining. Manu Ginobili then made a pair of free throws for the Spurs, but Teague drained a 3 over Kawhi Leonard to tie it at 100 with 4.7 seconds left. Curling off a pick, Duncan drained a jumper near the free-throw line to put San Antonio ahead to stay. Millsap's desperation jumper hit the side of the backboard.

Tony Parker added 15 points for the Spurs. Marco Belinelli had 13 and Ginobili finished with 10.

PELICANS 131, BULLS 128, 3OT

CHICAGO (AP) — Jrue Holiday made a three-point play with 2.6 seconds remaining in the third overtime Monday night, giving New Orleans the victory over Chicago.

Holiday had 19 points and 12 assists for the Pelicans. He made an 18-footer with 3.9 seconds remaining in regulation to tie the score at 103 and force overtime. Ryan Anderson had a career-high 36 points on 12-



San Antonio Spurs' Tim Duncan (21) celebrates with teammate Manu Ginobili (20) after he scored with less than a second remaining in the second half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Dec. 2, 2013, in San Antonio. San Antonio won 102-100.

Associated Press

of-20 shooting, including 7 for 11 on 3-pointers. Eric Gordon added 23 points for New Orleans.

Luol Deng led the Bulls with 37 points and also had eight rebounds and seven assists.

TRAIL BLAZERS 106, PACERS 102

PORTLAND, Oregon (AP) — LaMarcus Aldridge had 28 points and 10 rebounds and Damian Lillard finished with 26 points to help Portland end Indiana's seven-game winning.

Paul George had a career-high 43 points for Pacers (16-2), who own the NBA's best record.

The Blazers pulled in front until early in the fourth quarter but the Pacers kept it close, and George hit consecutive 3-pointers that narrowed it to 98-96 with

1:37 left. Lillard answered with a 3-pointer and Nicolas Batum made a pair of free throws for the Blazers before George hit another 3-pointer that got Indiana within 103-99 with 21 seconds to go.

Lillard hit free throws and George made yet another 3 with 10 seconds to go to make it 105-102, but the Pacers couldn't get closer.

The Blazers have won 13 of their last 14 games.

JAZZ 109, ROCKETS 103

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Marvin Williams scored five points in the final two minutes and Gordon Hayward broke out of a shooting slump to score 29 points as Utah beat Houston to earn its first back-to-back wins of the season.

With Utah clinging to a 101-98 lead, Williams stole

James Harden's pass and raced down for a dunk with 2 minutes left. Williams then hit a 3-pointer from the top of the key with 59 seconds to go to boost the lead to 108-100.

Rookie Trey Burke posted career highs of 21 points and six assists for Utah, which shot 54 percent and made 10 of 17 from beyond the arc.

Harden had 15 of his season-best 37 points in the fourth quarter to keep the Rockets close, but they couldn't get enough defensive stops.

Dwight Howard had 15 points as Houston lost for only the second time in its last 10 games.

WIZARDS 98, MAGIC 80

WASHINGTON (AP) — Trevor Ariza scored 24 points and John Wall had 16

points and 13 assists as Washington beat Orlando to get to .500 in the standings for the first time since it split its first four games of the 2009-10 season.

Nene scored 14 points and Marcin Gortat finished with 13 for Washington (9-9).

With top scorer Bradley Beal out of the lineup for the fifth straight game due to injury, Ariza supplied the offense, hitting 8 of 9 from the field, including four 3-pointers.

Arron Afflalo scored 21 points for Orlando, and Victor Oladipo added 13 points and six rebounds.

In other NBA games it was Washington 98, Orlando 80; New Orleans 131, Chicago 128, 3OT; San Antonio 102, Atlanta 100; Utah 109, Houston 103; and Portland 106, Indiana 102. □

**TODAY!
HAPPY HOUR
AT BUGALOE! 5-6 PM**



BUGALOE
Beach Bar and Grill

*Special prices on Balashi,
Balashi Chill, Mojito
& many more!*

Palm Beach at De Palm Pier | www.bugaloe.com
T: (297) 586 2233 | info@bugaloe.com



Altidore voted U.S. player of year for 1st time

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Forward Jozy Altidore has earned his first Futbol de Primera U.S. national team player of the year award. The 24-year-old received 233 points and 52 first-place votes in media balloting re-

leased Tuesday. Michael Bradley was second with 176 points and 34 firsts, followed by Landon Donovan with 127 points and 24 firsts. Altidore scored eight goals in 14 international appearances this year, raising

his total to 21 goals in 66 matches since 2007. He became the first U.S. player to score in five straight games. Last week, Altidore was selected the U.S. Soccer Federation's Male Athlete of the Year for the first time. □



United States' Jozy Altidore controls the ball during a team training session at Hampden Park, Glasgow, Scotland, Thursday Nov. 14, 2013. United States face Scotland in an international soccer match on Friday.

Associated Press

NHL Capsules

Continued from page 18

Josh Harding stopped 21 shots to earn his third shutout of the season, robbing Jakub Voracek on a third-period power play.

JETS 5, RANGERS 2

NEW YORK (AP) — Olli Jokinen broke a tie with 7:18 left in the third period and then netted an insurance goal moments later to lead Winnipeg to the win. Jokinen, a former Rangers player who also assisted on Devin Setoguchi's tying goal in the second period, gathered the puck after a strange carom off the end boards. He then fired a shot past rookie Cam Talbot, who got a surprise second straight start over No. 1 goalie Henrik Lundqvist.

Jokinen then squeezed his sixth of the season between Talbot's pads with 1:54 left, making it 4-2.

John Albert also scored in his NHL debut and Blake Wheeler added an empty-net goal in the final minute for Winnipeg, which got 35 saves from Ondrej Pav-



Minnesota Wild's Charlie Coyle, right, scores on Philadelphia Flyers goalie Ray Emery in the third period of an NHL hockey game, Monday, Dec. 2, 2013, in St. Paul, Minn. The Wild won 2-0.

Associated Press

elec.

Mats Zuccarello and Ryan Callahan scored for New York. Talbot made 25 saves. CANADIENS 3, DEVILS 2

MONTREAL (AP) — Alex Galchenyuk scored midway through the third pe-

riod to help Montreal get the victory.

Rene Bourque and Max Pacioretty also scored for the Canadiens. Carey Price made 28 saves.

Steve Bernier and Michael Ryder scored for the Dev-

ils, and Martin Brodeur stopped 14 shots.

Ryder tied it at 2 with a slap shot that got past Price at 4:42 in the third. But Galchenyuk responded five minutes later, picking up his seventh goal after Alexei

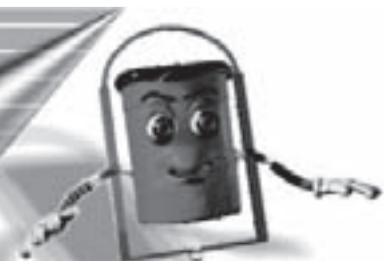
Emelin's shot landed on his stick.

It was New Jersey's first regulation loss at the Bell Centre since 2008.

KINGS 3, BLUES 2

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Rookie Tyler Toffoli scored two goals, Jarret Stoll also tallied and Ben Scrivens made 25 saves in Los Angeles' victory over St. Louis. Scrivens, who has performed brilliantly in place of the injured Jonathan Quick, was heading toward his fourth shutout of the season when Kevin Shattenkirk and Vladimir Tarasenko scored in the final 5:54. Scrivens has given up fewer than three goals in each of his last 10 starts and has posted two shutouts since Quick went on injured reserve on Nov. 12. Los Angeles has allowed fewer than three goals in a franchise-record 13 consecutive games. The streak includes a pair of 3-2 shootout losses to Buffalo and San Jose. In other NHL games it was Winnipeg 5, N.Y. Rangers 2; Montreal 3, New Jersey 2; Minnesota 2, Philadelphia 0; and Los Angeles 3, St. Louis 2. □

BON DIA Aruba



Blue-Grey (SAD)

By: Dr Carlos Viana

We are blessed to live in the land of endless sunshine. There's nothing "SAD" about being able to go barefoot and enjoy blue skies every day. This year though, we've had an unusual amount of rain and life on our tiny island can seem, tiny. Phyllis' antidote to "tiny" is to vacation in the big city. New York City, especially during the holidays energizes her. But after a week of nothing but grey skies, Phyllis begins to feel what our friends up north call the winter blue's or Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). Luckily, even with the rain, it is warm and our sun does shine bright between showers and locals and tourists run for some beach time even in winter. However, for those of you who have had too much cold, snow or rain it can cause more than a passing moment of "sad" feelings.

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a type of depression that often occurs in winter throughout the Northern and Southern Hemispheres due to lack of light and sunshine. It is rare in people living near the equator, where daylight hours are long. In individuals affected by this disorder, the symptoms usually recur each winter, starting between September and November and continuing until March or April; and although SAD may begin at any age, the typical age of onset is between eighteen and thirty. In addition to symptoms of depression, most sufferers show signs of a weakened immune system during the winter and are more

vulnerable to infections and other illnesses, while in spring and autumn they may have extreme mood changes and short periods of hypomania (overactivity). For some people, SAD produces symptoms severe enough to cause considerable stress and disrupt their lives. SAD symptoms usually disappear automatically in spring or when affected individuals travel to sunnier climates.

A diagnosis of SAD can be made after three or more consecutive winters of symptoms, which include the following:

- Desire to oversleep and difficulty staying awake
- Disturbed sleep
- Feelings of fatigue and inability to handle daily routine
- Craving carbohydrates and sweets
- Feelings of misery, guilt, apathy or loss of feelings
- Irritability
- Reduced self-esteem
- Desire to avoid social contact
- Tension and inability to tolerate stress
- Decreased interest in sex and physical contact

If relocating to a sunnier location is not possible, SAD can be treated in several ways. First, individuals can buy lightbulbs labeled, "full-spectrum". Full-spectrum bulbs are similar to natural daylight because the light is perceived to have the color and brightness of daylight. Daylight is a form of energy that travels in various wavelengths. Daylight, because it includes all wavelengths that are

visible to the human eye, is considered full spectrum. When SAD leads to depression, it can be treated with standard antidepressant drugs, or if these are ineffective, natural relief may be found in 5HTP (hydroxy-tryptophan), the precursor to serotonin, which plays an important role in regulating mood, sleep, sexuality, appetite, and vomiting. The benefits of 5HTP, which, unlike other antidepressants, affects only the brain, are very similar to those of L-tryptophan, such as aiding sleep, alleviating age-related depression, and minimizing effects of alcohol withdrawal. But 5HTP must not be taken with other serotonin-enhancing drugs, such as L-tryptophan or Prozac, without the guidance of a physician since this may cause severe side effects, including mania, anxiety, and dermatitis.

In addition, depression caused by SAD can be treated with acupuncture. Traditional Chinese medicine, believes that heat, cold, wind, dampness, dryness, and summer heat are six external climatic forces that can invade the human organism and create disharmony in body, mind, and spirit. Acupuncture can help people who suffer from SAD achieve a more balanced state.

The effects of SAD can be prevented or minimized by remaining physically active during the fall and winter months. Try winter outdoor activities such as skating, skiing. Jogging, walking the dog or playing outside with the kids can still be enjoyed in winter, but the right clothing and warming



up is essential. Make sure you start earlier to catch the shorter daylight hours for safety and enjoyment. If you can't take the cold, switch to indoor stretches and exercises such as working out at a gym, yoga, or try salsa lessons. These are excellent ways to maintain a healthy mind and body. Getting enough quality rest and staying connected with friends and family or getting professional help is important for emotional support.

As a clinical nutritionist, I can never say enough about eating healthy and staying hydrated. In the cold you may not sweat and therefore not realize you are dehydrated. However many indoor heating systems are drying, get a home humidifier if necessary. Including immune supporting supplements like vitamin C, Zinc, Cat's claw, Reishi, Shiitake and Maitake Mushrooms can make a difference. Add B complex to your program, to support strength and energy and 5HTP for "blue" feelings.

Get the Point. Don't spend another winter being SAD. With a little effort, you can adjust your lifestyle to the seasons. Plan and shop ahead for healthy meals. Stock up on immune system and mood supporting supplements. Schedule time and find new ways

to exercise, with a friend if possible. Invest in full spectrum lightbulbs. Try acupuncture; stay active physically, mentally and emotionally with supportive friends, family and professionals. Of course, a winter getaway to a warm, sunny place could help you turn your grey skies to a brighter shade of blue. If you're visiting our island and would like more information, call us for an appointment.

GIVE THE GIFT OF HEALTH: Gift Certificates and Organic Products available at Viana Center

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

"Prescriptions from Paradise" - 2012 International Book Award Winner - ta op tentible na Aruba na Viana Healing Center, Tur libreria, Gift shops y centro nan di salud di calidad. tambe ta disponibel den forma do print y pa Kindle download pa nos amigo nan pa fo di Aruba na www.amazon.com Pa anuncio nan acerca di mas evento nan y firmamento di buki check, check corant nan local, radio y television tambe como riba www.vianaheal.com y join e discussion riba nos Facebook pagina: www.facebook.com/prescriptionsformparadise.

Gift Certificates
Healthy Products



M-Sat at Kibaima 7
(St. Cruz, opposite the Drive-in)
walk-ins welcome

www.vianaheal.com
info@vianaheal.com

Dr. Carlos Viana
Oriental Medicine, Clinical Nutrition, Colon Hydro Therapy

Need a Whole Body Make-Over? TEL: 585-1270

Pain & Inflammation – Sleep – Stress - Allergies – Stomach Problems, PMS, Menopause, Chronic colds & flu – Fertility, natural Pregnancy, Post-partum – Addiction (Alcohol, street & legal Drugs, Gambling, Sex, WEIGHT CONTROL) – AGE Management



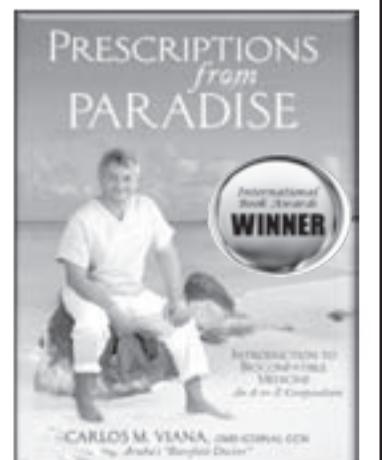
Viana

HEALING CENTER



* Toxic Heavy Metals, Amino Acids
*Food & Chemical Sensitivity Testing
*Specialized Hormone Testing

Take Home PARADISE



Available at local Bookstores & Gift shops
Paperback & Ebook on amazon

Tumblr brings hipster twist to year-end lists

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Tumblr is where the Internet's cool kids hang out. That's why Yahoo paid \$1.1 billion to buy the blogging site in one of this year's most buzzed-about deals.

Now, Tumblr is flaunting its hipster credentials with a first-ever breakdown of the year's hottest trends, topics and celebrities.

The retrospective started Tuesday at <http://YearinReview.tumblr.com> with an exploration of 20 categories ranging from the most popular musical groups to the most interesting architecture of 2013. Boasting a plethora of images, the review will continue through December with daily posts spanning 40 more categories that will culminate on New Year's Eve with the best fireworks displays featured on Tumblr during the year.

Similar end-of-the-year lists are annual rites at Yahoo, Google, Ask and other websites equipped with search engines that sort through billions of requests for information to determine which topics piqued people's interests.

Tumblr's musings figure to stand out because

they are drawn from a younger audience that differs from the more conventional crowds that flock to general-purpose search engines. More than half of Tumblr's 170 million users are under 35 years old, a demographic that has helped turn the service

director of product for content and community. "There are certain things they are crazy about that I am sure that a more general Internet audience is not super nuts about."

Tumblr's eclectic tastes are evident in some of the categories featured

gines tend to be more prosaic and predictable recitations that pore through the most popular celebrities, movies, singers, TV shows, and news stories.

Microsoft Corp.'s Bing search engine also reviewed the most popular social media services in

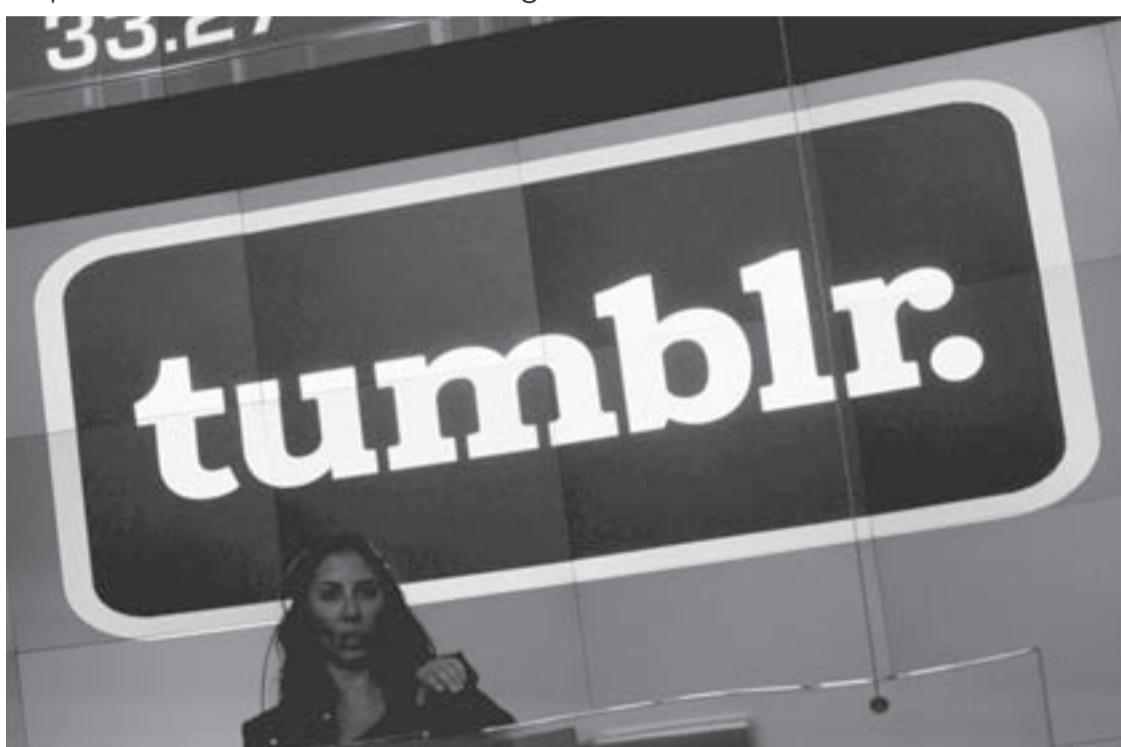
For instance, the most blogged-about actor on Tumblr during this year was Benedict Cumberbatch, an English performer who has primarily had supporting roles in U.S. films (he most recently played the villain Khan in "Star Trek Into Darkness.")

Cumberbatch doesn't appear in a separate year-end roundup to be released Tuesday by Yahoo, but "Star Trek Into Darkness" tops Yahoo's rankings of the most-searched movies on its site.

Tumblr's list also underscores its audience's devotion to the British TV series, "Doctor Who." The top actress rankings include three performers — Billie Piper, Karen Gillan and Jenna-Louise Coleman — who have appeared on "Doctor Who," a show that didn't make the cut on Yahoo's list of the most popular TV series.

In a tip to Tumblr, Yahoo is highlighting three of the blogging site's categories in its own breakdown.

Now Yahoo Inc. wants 6-year-old Tumblr to start selling more ads. One of the upcoming categories in Tumblr's retrospective will highlight the best ads that appeared on the service this year. □



The Tumblr logo is displayed at Nasdaq, Thursday, July 11, 2013 in New York. Yahoo acquired the online blogging forum for \$1.1 billion in June. Associated Press

into a free-wheeling forum filled with provocative imagery, snarky humor and occasionally ribald commentary.

"The people on Tumblr never cease to amaze me with their creativity and their wit and the amount of fun they are having online," said Danielle Strle, Tumblr's

in the service's year-end roundup. Entire sections will be devoted to photo bombing, fingernail art, unicorns, bacon, pretty colors, student loans and the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities.

In contrast, the annual lists released by the mainstream search en-

gine its year-end list released Monday. (Tumblr ranked sixth behind Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram.)

Tumblr's look back delves into some of that well-worn territory, too, though its selections may send some people scurrying to a search engine to find out more.

NEED CASH TODAY? PAWN OR SELL YOUR GOLD



VISIT US & COMPARE FOR YOURSELF!



JUWELENHUISJE

OPEN 10AM - 6PM MONDAY - FRIDAY



Stocks sink as US consumer spending worries deepen

KEN SWEET

AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — After eight weeks of gains, maybe the U.S. stock market pullback long anticipated by investors has arrived. Stocks fell Tuesday, dragged lower by the Detroit automakers and consumer-focused companies such as GameStop and Amazon.com. The market could be headed for its first weekly decline since early October, putting at risk a remarkable rally that has sent indexes to record highs.

The declines do not come as a surprise to large investors, many of whom have been predicting a pullback. The S&P 500 has surged 26 percent this year, on track for its best year since the dot-com bull market of the late 1990s.

Stocks cannot go straight up all the time. For stocks to pause, decline or even enter a "correction," a Wall Street term for when an index falls 10 percent or more, would all be considered normal after eight

straight weeks of gains.

"The markets may have stalled out here, but that must be taken in the con-

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 94.15 points, or 0.6 percent, to 15,914.62. The Standard & Poor's 500

to 4,037.20. Companies that depend heavily on consumer spending had some of the



Traders Luigi Muccitelli, left, and Greg Mulligan work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013. Stocks are opening lower on Wall Street as investors hold back ahead of economic reports that could influence when the Federal Reserve will start reducing its stimulus.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

text of what has been a great year," said Alec Young, global equity strategist with S&P Capital IQ.

index fell 5.75 points, or 0.3 percent, to 1,795.15 and the Nasdaq composite fell 8.06 points, or 0.2 percent,

biggest losses. GameStop, the video game retailer, sank \$1.02, or 2 percent, to \$45.95, one of the worst de-

clines in the S&P 500 index. Amazon.com fell \$7.64, or 2 percent, to \$384.66.

Automakers fell. General Motors lost 97 cents, or 3 percent, to \$38.14 and Ford fell 50 cents, or 3 percent, to \$16.56, despite what auto industry analysts considered mostly positive sales reports for November. The sell-off auto stocks came as a surprise to industry analysts. Chrysler said sales rose 16 percent in November compared with a year ago, while GM and Ford's sales increased 14 percent and 7 percent, respectively. Overall, the industry reported a 9 percent year-over-year sales gain.

Investors are waiting for several economic reports later this week that could influence whether the Fed will pare back its \$85 billion-a-month bond-buying program, which is designed to keep interest rates low and stimulate the economy.

"When you look at how markets have performed this year, some investors may have decided to cash in, put their feet up and drink eggnog," said Lawrence Creatura, a portfolio manager with Federated Investors. On Friday, the government will release its monthly job market survey, one of the most closely watched indicators of the U.S. economy. Economists expect that employers created 180,000 jobs last month while the unemployment rate remained steady at 7.2 percent, according to FactSet, a financial information provider.

Investors have been seeing some encouraging economic news recently. A trade group reported Monday that manufacturing was growing in the U.S. at the fastest pace in two and a half years. The group also said factories were hiring at the quickest rate in 18 months.

A strong economy is good for corporate profits, and by extension the stock market, over the long term. But if the economy is getting closer to full strength, that means the Federal Reserve could have all the more reason to pull back its stimulus program, which has been supporting financial markets. □

US home prices rise just 0.2 percent in October

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A measure of U.S. home prices rose only modestly in October, adding to signs that prices have stabilized after experiencing big gains earlier this year. Real estate data provider CoreLogic said Tuesday that prices increased 0.2 percent in October from September. That's up from a 0.1 percent gain in September. But it is down sharply from a 0.9 percent increase in August.

One reason for the slowdown is that the figures aren't adjusted for seasonal patterns. Prices usually decline in the fall and winter, when sales slow.

Still, large gains during the previous months, along with higher mortgage rates, may be pricing some buyers out of the market. Home prices have risen 12.5 percent from a year ago. The increase could encourage more sellers to put their homes on the market, easing a shortage

of homes for sale.

Only 1.88 million homes were on the market at the end of October, down 2.1 percent from the previous month and the fewest since March.

er than it was a year earlier. But it's below the roughly 5.5 million sold each year in healthier markets.

Some sales were delayed in October due to the 16-day partial government

contracts to buy homes fell for a fifth straight month in October. That points to weaker final sales in the coming months. Final sales typically occur one to two months after contracts are signed.

According to CoreLogic, prices rose in October from the previous year in all states except New Mexico. The biggest gains were in Nevada (25.9 percent), California (22.4 percent), Georgia (14.2 percent), Michigan (14.1 percent) and Arizona (14 percent). Ninety-six of the 100 largest metro areas reported price gains from the previous year. That's down from September, when all 100 cities reported gains.

The biggest increase was in Riverside, California, with 24.1 percent, followed by Los Angeles (22.1 percent), Atlanta (16.4 percent), Phoenix (15.9 percent) and Chicago (12.3 percent). Home prices are still about 17 percent below the peak reached in April 2006, according to CoreLogic. □



A home is advertised for sale in Matthews, N.C. Private data provider CoreLogic reported mixed data on home prices for October on Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013. (AP Photo/Chuck Burton)

The shortage of inventory has affected sales. Home re-sales fell in October for a second straight month to a seasonally adjusted annual pace of 5.12 million, the lowest since June, according to the National Association of Realtors. That pace is still 6 percent high-

shutdown, the Realtors' group said. The shutdown prevented the IRS from verifying incomes, a critical part of the mortgage-approval process. Those sales may have been pushed into November or December.

But a measure of signed

Oil jumps on news of pipeline opening

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The price of oil jumped more than 2 percent Tuesday on the prospect of more oil flowing out of a key storage hub in the middle of the U.S.

TransCanada said the southern leg of its Keystone XL pipeline should be operational early next month. The pipeline would move oil out of Cushing, Oklahoma, the physical delivery point for futures on U.S. benchmark oil, to Port Arthur, Texas. That should lead to greater demand for the oil, which is priced lower than the crudes imported into the Gulf region. Benchmark U.S. crude for January delivery rose \$2.22, or 2.4 percent, to close at \$96.04 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. That followed Monday's gain of \$1.10 a barrel.

Investors are also looking to a meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Vienna on Wednesday for an update on production levels.

OPEC is expected to keep intact its daily output target of 30 million barrels a day, although the group may come under pressure to reduce production if some supply sources currently experiencing disruptions return to normal.

Markets will also be monitoring fresh information on U.S. stockpiles of crude oil and refined products.

Data for the week ending Nov. 29 is expected to show a decline of 1.25 million barrels in crude oil stocks and an increase of 2 million barrels in gasoline stocks, according to a survey of analysts by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos. U.S. crude supplies have risen for 10 consecutive weeks, mostly due to increased domestic production. They stood at 391.4 million barrels on Nov. 22, 13.3 percent above their five-year average.

The report from the Energy Department's Energy Information Administration will be out on Wednesday. □

Holiday weekend a boost for US auto sales

TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — The holiday weekend was good to U.S. automakers, as November sales rose 9 percent to beat strong numbers from

November, while General Motors posted a 14 percent gain. Nissan sales rose 11 percent, while Toyota was up 10 percent. Ford notched a 7 percent gain and Hyundai sales rose just

fordable. All of this bodes well for future growth."

Small crossover SUVs like the new Jeep Cherokee were once again the stars for the month. The crossovers continued to gobble

and midsize cars and predicted that trend would continue.

The Cherokee notched the rare achievement of sales of more than 10,000 in its first full month on the market.

"That is a big number," said Jeff Schuster, senior vice president of auto sales forecasting for LMC Automotive, an industry consulting firm.

Overall, Chrysler sold just over 142,000 vehicles last month for its best November in six years, up from nearly 123,000 a year ago. Sales of Jeeps rose 30 percent, and the brand had its best November ever.

Both GM and Chrysler reported their best November sales since 2007. GM sales rose to 212,060, up from 186,505.

GM was led by larger vehicles, with its top-selling Chevy Silverado pickup posting a 12 percent gain. The GMC Sierra pickup saw sales rise 23 percent. Large SUVs, like the Chevrolet Tahoe, also had big sales, with the Tahoe up 23 percent. Big cars also were up.

The Chevy Impala posted a 20 percent gain, while the Cadillac XTS was up 42 percent. The double-digit pickup gains were repeated at Ford and Chrysler. Sales of Ford's F-Series, the best-selling vehicles in the U.S., rose 16 percent to 65,501. For Chrysler, sales of the Ram pickup increased by 22 percent. □



Two shoppers are reflected on the glass window at the Citadel Outlets in Los Angeles. The holiday weekend was good to U.S. automakers, as sales reports indicate the auto industry is on track to beat strong sales numbers from a year ago.

(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

a year ago.

Sales ran at an annual rate of 16.4 million cars and trucks last month, making it the best rate of the year according to Autodata Corp.

"Industry sales in November picked up after Thanksgiving, contributing to the best sales pace of the year," said Bill Fay, Toyota division group vice president and general manager. Chrysler's U.S. sales rose a surprising 16 percent in

under 5 percent. Of major automakers, only Volkswagen and Honda reported sales drops. VW brand sales were down 16 percent, while Honda sales were off less than 1 percent.

Kurt McNeil, GM's U.S. sales chief, attributed the strong sales pace to better conditions for consumers.

"The economy is creating jobs and household wealth," he said. "Energy costs are dropping and credit is available and af-

up market share during November, gaining two full percentage points over a year ago to 15.5 percent of U.S. sales, said Erich Merkle, Ford's top sales analyst.

The gains came at the expense of small and midsize cars. Midsize cars' share of the market fell one point to 14.5 percent, while small cars dropped a point to around 20 percent, Merkle said. Both Ford and GM said competitors offered big discounts on their small

RBS to compensate card holders after online error

CHAD BRAY

© 2013 New York Times

LONDON — The Royal Bank of Scotland, bailed out by the British government five years ago, had to apologize on Tuesday after a systems crash left millions of its customers unable to pay with their debit or credit cards for several hours on Monday evening.

The systems error occurred as Britons headed home from work on Monday, leaving them unable to buy groceries or use their cards on one of the biggest

online shopping days of the year, known as Cyber Monday.

On Monday evening, RBS posted on its Twitter feed that it was aware of "technical issues," which ultimately led to some customers being unable to conduct card transactions or access its online banking website. The company reported via Twitter about three hours later that its systems were coming back online.

"We would like to apologize to our customers,"

RBS said in a statement on Tuesday, announcing that its systems were fully functional. "If anyone has been left out of pocket as a result of these systems problems, we will put this right."

The technical problem is the latest embarrassment for the bank, which remains majority owned by the British government.

Last week, RBS said it would hire the law firm Clifford Chance to independently examine its lending practices after it was criticized in two reports. In one report,

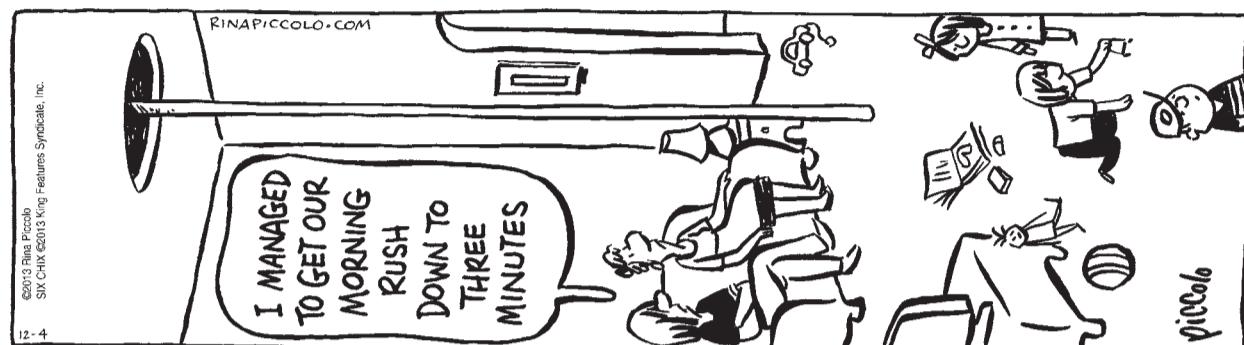
the British businessman and government adviser Lawrence Tomlinson claimed that the bank had pushed some business clients into default unnecessarily so it could charge certain fees and take over assets at a discount.

Andrew Large, a former Bank of England deputy governor, said in a separate report last week that the bank had made progress since the 2008 financial crisis, but was not doing enough to lend to small and midsize businesses. □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

2	6	3	8	9	4	1						
3							7					
							6					
							5					
4	6	9	7	5								
					2							
					9							
4						8						
7	1	4	6	8	9	3						

Difficulty Level ★★★

12/04

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

6	9	8	2	7	4	3	5	1				
2	5	3	9	1	8	6	7	4				
4	7	1	3	6	5	8	9	2				
3	4	2	1	8	9	7	6	5				
9	6	5	7	4	2	1	3	8				
1	8	7	6	5	3	4	2	9				
5	1	6	4	9	7	2	8	3				
8	3	4	5	2	6	9	1	7				
7	2	9	8	3	1	5	4	6				

Yesterday's puzzle answer

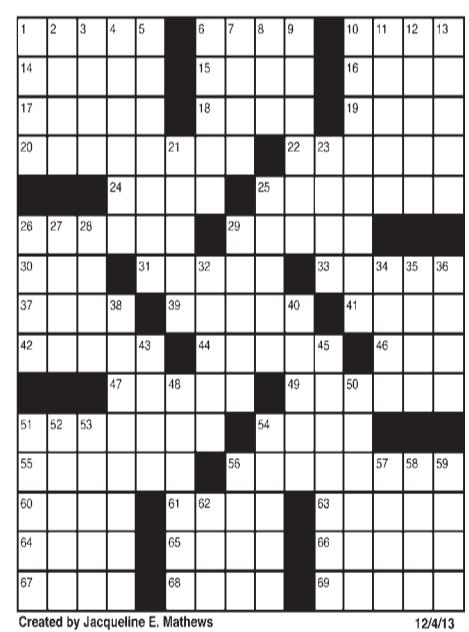
6	9	8	2	7	4	3	5	1				
2	5	3	9	1	8	6	7	4				
4	7	1	3	6	5	8	9	2				
3	4	2	1	8	9	7	6	5				
9	6	5	7	4	2	1	3	8				
1	8	7	6	5	3	4	2	9				
5	1	6	4	9	7	2	8	3				
8	3	4	5	2	6	9	1	7				
7	2	9	8	3	1	5	4	6				

ACROSS

1 Church steeple
6 Ensnare
10 "M'A'S'H" star
14 Singer Mariah
15 Chablis or rosé
16 Scorch
17 Make amends
18 Vanished
thin air
19 Beach surface
20 Extending a
subscription
22 Pressure
cooker brand
24 Actress Tierney
25 More luxurious
26 Bedcover
29 "The Raven"
and "Trees"
30 Plato's "T"
31 Euphrates or
Mississippi
33 Pillars
37 Additionally
39 Went public with
41 Unusual
42 Sandbars
44 Passenger
46 Energy
47 point; center
of attention
49 Actress
Jacqueline
51 illusion; mirage
54 Single forklift
55 Norris & Berry
56 Located
60 Candy
Christmas treat
61 Frosted
63 Set ; reserve
64 Consumer
65 Largest digit
66 Get stuck
67 Communists
68 Likelihood
69 Disdiful look

DOWN

1 Mark left after
healing
2 Cracker spread
3 Common metal
4 Go back on
one's promise
5 Glasses and
sunglasses



Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

M	O	D	E	L	A	D	S	O	W	L	S	
A	P	E	X	E	L	I	O	T	P	E	A	
R	E	A	P	A	I	S	L	E	P	A	C	
E	N	D	L	E	S	S	L	A	B	O	R	
A	N	T	M	A	L	E	S					
A	P	H	I	D	F	I	R	S	E	A	T	
W	R	E	N	F	A	R	L	E	S	S	O	
A	I	L	M	I	N	A	R	E	T	I	N	
I	C	E	B	O	X	C	O	D	E	G	E	
T	E	N	E	T	P	L	Y	S	M	E	A	
D	E	N	S	E	F							
C	H	A	R	L	I	E						
H	I	R	E	G	U	A						
A	G	E	S	E	D	D						
T	H	A	T	R	O	O						

(c) 2013 Tribune Content Agency, LLC
All Rights Reserved.

6 Thick string
7 Engagement
symbol
8 Crawling bug
9 Human beings
10 Evaluator
11 Rover's rein
12 Italy's most
famous poet
13 Zeal
21 Neighbor of
Pakistan
23 Backside
25 over;
scrutinized
26 Actor with the
lead role
27 Sickly looking
28 Trick
29 Danger
32 Went ; was
widely viewed
on YouTube
34 Fools
35 Birch or beech
36 Aug.'s follower
37 Communists
38 Policemen
39 Went to;
waits
40 an account;
deduct funds

43 Punch
45 Traditional
formalities
48 Reno
attraction
50 Summer or fall
51 Happen
52 out; get rid
of gradually

53 out; ignored
54 one's time;
waits
56 Transmit
57 Laundry brand
58 On ;
nervous
59 Buck or doe
62 Spanish hero

In your face, selfie! 'Science' also tops for 2013

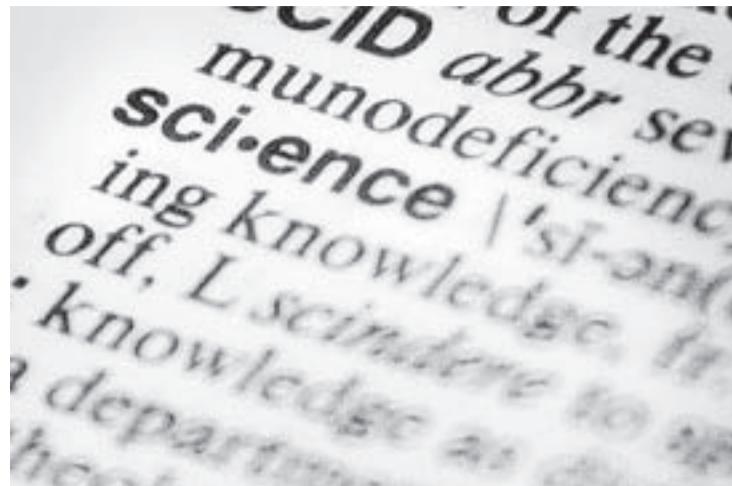
LEANNE ITALIE

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — "Selfie" was the word of the year for Oxford University Press, the British publisher of the Oxford dictionaries. But folks at Merriam-Webster went old school Tuesday with "science."

Oxford tracked a huge jump in overall usage of selfie, but Merriam-Webster stuck primarily to look-ups on its website, recording a 176 percent increase for science when compared with last year.

"The more we thought about it, the righter it seemed in that it does lurk behind a lot of big stories that we as a society are grappling with, whether it's climate change or environmental regulation or what's in our textbooks," said John Morse, president and publisher of Merriam-Webster Inc., based in Springfield, Massachusetts. Science, he said, is connected to broad cultural oppositions — science versus faith, for instance — along with the power of observation and intuition, reason and ideology, evidence and tradition. Of



This Monday, Dec. 2, 2013 photo shows the word "science" on a page of a Merriam-Webster dictionary, in New York. "Science" is the publisher's word of the year.

Associated Press

particular note, to Merriam-Webster, anyway, is fallout from the October release of Malcolm Gladwell's latest book, "David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants."

Gladwell, a popularizer of scientific thought and research in best-sellers and The New Yorker magazine, takes on the challenges of obstacles and the nature of disabilities and setbacks in the book. But he leaves science itself — according to some critics — as a rhetorical device for his main

mission of storytelling. The tweets, blog posts and online commentary about the book — yay and nay — proliferated as Gladwell hit the road to promote it. Peter Sokolowski, a lexicographer and editor at large for Merriam-Webster, called the Gladwell dustup a symptom of where sci-

Tel: 582-0697 / 583-7484
Schotland str. 70
Email: quality@setarnet.aw
Website: www.arubaqualityapartments.com



Extend your Stay at Quality Apartments
*Studio & Loft Apts. *Fully Furnished
*Kitchen / Airco / Cable TV *Swimming Pool
Less than 1 mile from Eagle Beach & 4 large supermarkets.
Feel free to contact or visit us.
Mon - Fri: 8am-7pm. Sat & Sun: 9am-5pm.

FOR SALE



Ruby 72

This spacious 4 bedroom property is located at the end of a cul-de-sac in North. It has enough space to build a pool or guest apartment. The garden is fully fenced-in and has nice landscaped yard. The built-up area is 217m² / 2321 sq.ft. including the covered back porch, land size 837m².

US\$ 334.269,-

Palm Beach 4-G
Tel: 586 4242
www.arubahouses.com

Century 21
Best & Solid Real Estate

ence stands today. With the explosion of information and technology, are we all scientists? "You have scientists writing long pieces, purportedly reviews of his new book, basically criticizing him, and then his response is: 'Hey, buddy. I'm not a scientist. I'm a writer who's trying to promote the work of scientists. To contextualize it. To make it accessible.' □

Antiqueshop ROCOCO PLAZA

Tanki Leendert rd. 4A **SALE**
Daily Open: 9 am- 1pm **SALE**
Afternoon 3.30 -5.30 pm
Saturd ½ day. Inf. 741-5640

FLEAMARKET 1+8+15+22 DEC

Classifieds

FOR SALE

Marriott Ocean Club

2 bedrooms, Gold Season
\$9500

This week call Surf Club at
Tel. 297-586-900 room 7402
After Dec. 8 call 516-359-2946

200489

FOR SALE

Caribbean Palm Village (deeded)

E 107 first floor pool side
(renovated)
week 1 thru 5

1 bedroom 2 bath \$10.000
p/week
email: np7300@roadrunner.com

200451

FOR SALE week 47

Tropicana Timeshare

Thanksgiving week Rm 1557
sat to sat 11/23

AL OFFERS CONSIDERED

e-mail: rmwjmw@aol.com
phone: 508-651-0016

200459

FOR SALE

La Cabana week 49

12/6 start one bed room unit
105 C pool floor recently
remodeled, all amenities \$2500

AL OFFERS CONSIDERED

e-mail: rmwjmw@aol.com
phone: 508-651-0016

200458

DOCTOR ON DUTY Oranjestad



Dr. Cayama

EMERGENCIA 911



POLIS	100
POLIS	581-1100
ORANJESTAD	582-4000
NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	584-5050

PHARMACY

O'STAD: Sta. Cruz Tel: 585-8028
S. NICOLAS:Centro Medico Tel: 584-5794

INFORMATION	118
SETAR	582-2116
TAXI	582-5900
TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

CRUISESHIP

Dec. 4

Crown Princess
Vision of the Seas
Wind Spirit

Aruba Airport	524-2424
American Airline	582-2700
Avianca	588-0059
Dutch Antilles	588-1900
Insel Air	588-9314
Jet Blue	588-2244
Spirit Airlines	582-7117
Tiara Air	588-4272
Venezolana	583-7674

FOUNDATION

FELLOWSHIP CLINIC

Tel: 584-6440
Alcoholism & Drug Addiction,
Anonymity guaranteed

FUNDACION

Anti-Droga
Aruba
(FADA) Tel: 583-2999

FUNDACION

Respetami

Tel: 582-4433

Diabetic Foundation

Arubano

Tel: 583-3808

Narcotics Anonymous

Tel: 583-8989

Foundation Amor

pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3345 / 586-6976

Women in Difficulties

Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

Bloodbank Aruba

Tel: 587-0002

Guam tests toxic mice to kill invasive snakes



A brown tree snake, pictured here, has become the focal point of a massive campaign in Guam. U.S. government dropped 2,000 toxic mice onto the island to help eradicate the snakes.

Associated Press

HAGATNA, Guam (AP) —

Biologists on Guam are trying to find out if mildly toxic dead mice can help eradicate an invasive species of snake that has caused millions of dollars in damages by creating power outages on the island.

Crews on Monday distributed mice packed with 80 milligrams of acetaminophen on two plots in a test to kill brown tree snakes, which were accidentally introduced to the island about 60 years ago.

Representatives from several federal agencies watched the aerial bait drop, Pacific Daily News reported (<http://bit.ly/lph0ex>).

The mice should not affect other species, said U.S. Department of Agriculture wildlife services biologist Dan Vice, who has worked on snake eradication for

more than a decade.

"The risk to nontargets is slight," Vice said. "It would take 500 baits to kill a pig (or dog and) 15 baits to kill a cat."

A pilot project with 280 mice in 2010 led to more aerial bait drops that began in September. Research and the drops have cost \$8 million annually with funding from the Interior and Defense departments. An estimated 1 to 2 million snakes live on the island. Aerial bait drops might be the most efficient way to control the population without affecting deer or pigs, Vice said.

"If it proves to be successful, then we may potentially start ramping up the efforts and doing this on a larger basis across more of Guam," Vice said.

Mice were dropped Monday on two 136-acre plots,

a combined area about the size of 210 football fields. Some mice were implanted with tiny radios to allow the USDA to determine whether mice were eaten.

Biologists are also tracking populations of small animals, which will increase with fewer snakes.

The mice drops are only for area where humans don't live, Vice said.

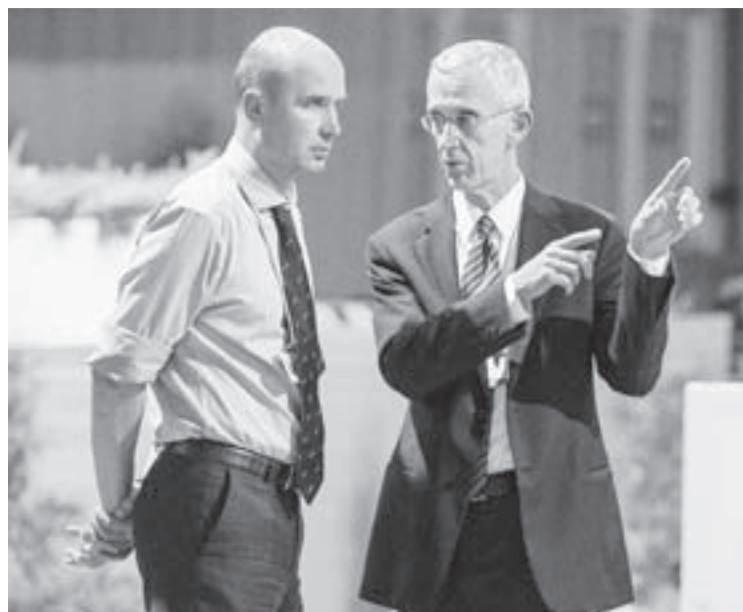
No deaths from the venomous bite of a brown tree snake have been recorded, Vice said. Most bites cause no more damage to an adult than a bee sting, he said. But Brown tree snakes cause problems by creating outages on the Guam Power Authority power grid with damage reaching \$1 million to \$4 million annually, according to USDA documents.

Major substations use special fences to keep snakes out. Traps on fences catch about 8,000 snakes per year, Vice said.

A stable population of brown tree snakes could be disastrous to Hawaii, Vice said, and the threat of them spreading is real. Guam ports use snake-sniffing dogs to detect invasive species. □

Call 565-9535

Honey Dolls
Massage and escort service
Beautiful Latin Girls
Pick-up & Delivery 24/7
Serving Men-Couples- Women
All Genders
Red Light Tour
Bachelor Party Specialized
The best in the Caribbean



U.S. climate envoy Todd Stern, right, talking to Marcin Korolec, head of Poland's presidency of U.N. talks on slowing global warming in Warsaw, Poland, on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2013, as negotiations continue.

Associated Press

Federal study warns of sudden climate change woes

SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A panel of scientists advising the U.S. government says the world needs to worry more about hard-to-predict sudden changes from global warming than it does about the bigger but more gradual impacts.

The National Academy of Sciences looked at warming problems that can occur in years instead of centuries. The panel said Tuesday that melting ice in the Arctic Ocean and mass species extinction are already here and worse than predicted.

It says the melting ice could be more of a wild card than originally thought.

However, the report said two other abrupt climate threats worried about earlier likely will not be so sudden.

Study co-author Richard Alley compared the threats to the random danger of drunk drivers: If you see them coming, you can get out of the way. □

Glitches keep private firm from launching rocket

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A new communications satellite that has both public and government applications is still sitting on the launch pad at Cape Canaveral, Fla. The privately owned SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket has experienced several technical issues this year and two attempts to launch on Thanksgiving were aborted. SpaceX says it will try again in a few days to launch the 7,000-pound satellite into geostationary orbit.

The launch was originally scheduled for early this year but was scrubbed. More glitches kept it on the ground Monday.

SpaceX was not granted permission by the FAA to launch Tuesday or Wednesday due to heavy Thanksgiving air traffic.

The SES-8 satellite will be used in conjunction with other communications systems to increase bandwidth capacity in Asia and provide expansion of services such as maritime communications and distance learning programs. □

NY film critics name 'American Hustle' best film



This film image released by Sony Pictures shows Bradley Cooper, left, and Christian Bale in a scene from "American Hustle." Associated Press

JAKE COYLE
AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Film Critics Circle named "American Hustle"

the best film of 2013, giving David O. Russell's fictionalized Abscam tale an early jolt in Hollywood's awards season. The film was also

awarded best supporting actress for Jennifer Lawrence and best screenplay for the script by Russell and Eric Singer. The film, which

doesn't open in theaters until Dec. 13, is about a collection of FBI agents and con men that brought down high-profile politicians in and around New Jersey in the late 1970s. Best actor went to Robert Redford for his near-wordless performance in the shipwreck drama "All Is Lost." Cate Blanchett won best actress for her leading role as a bitter, fallen socialite in Woody Allen's "Blue Jasmine."

"12 Years of Slave" filmmaker Steve McQueen took best director for his adaptation of Solomon Northup's memoir about being abducted and sold into slavery in 19th-century Louisiana.

The critics group doesn't frequently predict Academy Awards winners. Last year, it chose Kathryn Bigelow's Osama bin Laden hunt docudrama "Zero Dark Thirty" as best picture, though the group was in line with Oscar voters in 2011 with "The Artist."

Many prognosticators consider the front-runners this year to be "12 Years a Slave" and the space adventure "Gravity," but

early awards are finding anything but consensus. On Monday night, the Gotham Independent Awards chose the Coen brothers' early '60s folk music tale "Inside Llewyn Davis" as best film.

The New York critics named Bruno Delbonnel's photography for "Inside Llewyn Davis" best cinematography. Best supporting actor went to Jared Leto for his performance as an HIV-afflicted transsexual in "Dallas Buyers Club."

Other awards included "Blue is the Warmest Color" for best foreign language picture, "Stories We Tell" for best non-fiction film, and "The Wind Rises" for best animated film.

The New York Film Critics Circle, a body of New York-based critics founded in 1935, announced their annual vote on Twitter. Awards will be handed out at a ceremony Jan. 6.

Award-giving continues Wednesday with the National Board of Review Awards. The Los Angeles Film Critics make their picks Sunday. Golden Globe nominations will be announced Dec. 12. □

Billy Joel plans Madison Square Garden residency

By JOHN CARUCCI
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Billy Joel will perform once a month at Madison Square Garden — as long as the fans will have him.

The Grammy Award-winning icon announced Tuesday that he'll perform a residency at the famed NYC venue every month for as long as New Yorkers demand. He's set to perform sold-out shows on Jan. 27, Feb. 3, March 21 and April 28. He will also perform on his 65th birthday, which is May 9. Tickets go on sale Saturday.

"We're gonna dust off some stuff. We're gonna feature more of the album tracks, more obscure songs. We'll still do some songs people are familiar with and like, but we're gonna change it up. It gives you an edge," he said in an interview after the press conference.

Joel was introduced by New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who called the singer a "worldwide superstar who values most that



Billy Joel speaks at a news conference at Madison Square Garden, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013 in New York. The icon announced he will perform a residency at the famed NYC venue once a month for as many months as New Yorkers demand. He is set to perform sold out shows on Jan. 27, Feb. 3, March 21 and April 28. He will also perform on his 65th birthday, which is May 9. Associated Press

he is a hometown hero," citing Joel's participation in the Concert for New York City after the Sept. 11 attacks and the 12-12-12 concert for Hurricane Sandy relief.

The Bronx-born Joel first performed at MSG in 1978. Since then, he has played at the venue 46 times.

"I said it in '78, and I'll say it again, there is no better

venue in the world," he said.

Joel will perform at Brooklyn's Barclays Center on New Year's Eve. He said that show and previous shows are prepping him for his MSG run.

"We did a series of gigs in England and Ireland and they went well. That's kind of how we warmed up to this," he said. □

Diane Lane and Josh Brolin's divorce finalized

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A Los Angeles judge has finalized Diane Lane and Josh Brolin's divorce.

Court records show that the couple's divorce judgment was entered by a court Wednesday. The pair were married for more than eight years when they filed for divorce in February.

No details of any financial settlement were filed with the court.

Lane is the star of films such as "Unfaithful" and "Under the Tuscan Sun." She had taken Brolin's last name but will no longer use it. Brolin has starred in films such as "Gangster Squad" and "No Country for Old Men." The former couple has no children together.



In this May 23, 2012 file photo, actor Josh Brolin and wife Diane Lane arrive at the premiere of "Men in Black 3" at the Ziegfeld Theater in New York.

Associated Press

The judgment was first reported Monday by celebrity website TMZ. □

'Fast & Furious 7' delayed after Walker's death

JAKE COYLE
AP Film Writer

Production on "Fast & Furious 7" is on hold following the death of star Paul Walker.

Shooting on the film had been scheduled to resume this week in Atlanta but was canceled Monday and Tuesday. A spokesman for Universal Pictures declined to say when shooting will resume. Production on the latest installment of the franchise began in September. While a large portion of the film has been shot, the movie is incomplete.

It is scheduled for release July 11, a date that could be difficult to meet with any lengthy delay. Universal Pictures is expected to go forward with the film, but it has not announced how it will adjust the movie or handle Walker's unfinished performance.

The franchise, which has starred Walker in all but one installment, is particularly lucrative for Universal. "Fast & Furious 6," released in May, was the

highest grossing film in the series, earning more than \$788 million worldwide. The manner of Walker's death — a fiery car crash in a specialty sports car — was also so reminiscent of the films that made him famous that "Fast & Furious 7" will be under particular scrutiny for how it portrays the fatal risks of street car racing. Police investigators are examining the cause of the crash that killed Walker, 40, and his friend and fellow fast-car enthusiast Roger Rodas on Saturday north of Los Angeles.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has said witnesses described the car "traveling alone at a high rate of speed" before the 2005 Porsche Carrera GT smashed into a light pole and tree, and then exploded in flames. On Monday night, a private memorial for survivors and the cast and crew of the "Fast & Furious" movies was held inside a white tent erected around the crash site in Valencia. When it was



In this April 29, 2011 file photo, actor Paul Walker poses during the photo call of the movie "Fast and Furious 5," in Rome. **Associated Press**

over, Walker's co-star Vin Diesel emerged to thank fans for paying their respects to the actor. Walker left behind two completed films that will be released. He stars in the upcoming

Hurricane Katrina drama "Hours," which Lionsgate's Pantelion Films will release Dec. 13 in limited theaters and on video-on-demand, as previously planned. Walker is a producer on the film,

something he hadn't previously done. Walker also stars in "Brick Mansions," a remake of the French action film "District B13" that Relativity plans to release early next year. □

Katy Perry is newest UNICEF goodwill ambassador



Singer Katy Perry looks toward the audience before she is appointed a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, at UNICEF headquarters in New York, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013.

Associated Press

EDITH M. LEDERER
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Pop star Katy Perry said Tuesday that becoming a goodwill ambassador for the U.N. children's agency has made her realize there's more to happiness than material possessions and social status.

She said that on her first trip for UNICEF, to the impoverished Indian Ocean island nation of Madagascar in April to see how the agency worked before agreeing to be a goodwill ambassador, she was moved by "the incredible joy" among the children despite the difficulties many

faced.

"It changed my life," Perry said of the trip. "It really kind of reprioritized my thinking, and my whole approach on life, and how to find my own joy and my own happiness that isn't being from material possessions and social status."

She said it also inspired her to write "Unconditionally," her favorite song on her new album "Prism."

UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake officially appointed her a Goodwill Ambassador to focus especially on children and adolescents who are most vulnerable as a result of severe poverty, violence, abuse and neglect.

"We look forward to hearing her 'roar' on behalf of UNICEF," Lake said.

Perry told The Associated Press that the Madagascar trip made her realize that young people outside the United States need help

with education and other services that UNICEF provides. "It's nice to be able to pop the bubble that I live in and realize that the world has so many different things to offer and cultures," she said.

Perry said listening to the stories of the people she met, especially the women who were suppressed and abused, had an influence on her and her music.

"You know I was going through a transition in my life where I felt like I had been suppressed and emotionally toyed with — and like I went there, and I was like, I have nothing to compare my situation to," she said in an apparent reference to the breakup of her marriage to British comedian Russell Brand. "It made me feel very grateful, but also very aware."

Perry said she expects to make one trip a year for UNICEF and among the

possibilities being discussed are Peru, Haiti and the Philippines.

Grammy nominations are coming up Friday and there's been speculation that Perry's hit "Roar" could be up for some awards.

"Well first comes the speculation, then the nomination and then hopefully an award," she said. "So I think I would be too premature. I'm just happy that 'Roar' has kind of taken on a life of its own and touched so many people in a way unexpectedly that I could have ever imagined."

Perry said there is definitely one other person she'd like to see get a Grammy nomination. "I think my boyfriend would be a perfect candidate because he put out an incredible record called 'Paradise Valley' that is unlike anything else in the scene right now," Perry said of singer John Mayer. □

The Pope and the right



Ross Douthat
© 2013 New York Times News Service

Now it's your turn to be part of the loyal opposition," a fellow Catholic journalist said to me earlier this year, as Pope Francis' agenda was beginning to take shape.

The friend was a political liberal and lifelong Democrat, accustomed to being on the wrong side of his church's teaching on issues like abortion, bioethics and same-sex marriage.

Now, he cheerfully suggested, right-leaning Catholics like me would get a taste of the same experience, from a pope who seemed intent on skirting the culture war and stressing the church's mission to the poor instead.

After Francis' latest headline-making exhortation, which roves across the entire life of the church but includes a sharp critique of consumer capitalism and financial laissez-faire, politically conservative Catholics have reached for several explanations for why my friend is wrong, and why they aren't the new "cafeteria Catholics."

First, they have pointed out that there's nothing truly novel here, apart from a lazy media narrative that pits Good Pope Francis against his bad reactionary predecessors. (Many of the new pope's comments track with what Benedict XVI said in his own economic encyclical, and with past papal criticisms of commercial capitalism's discontents.)

Second, they have sought to depoliticize the pope's comments, recasting them as a general brief against avarice and consumerism rather than a call for specific government interventions. And finally, they have insisted on the difference between church teaching on faith and morals, and papal pronouncements on economic issues, noting that there's nothing that obliges Catholics to believe the pontiff is infallible on questions of public policy.

All three responses have their merits, but they still seem insufficient to the Francis era's challenge to Catholics on the limited-government, free-market right.

It's true that there is far more continuity between Francis and Benedict than media accounts suggest.

But the new pope clearly intends to foreground the church's social teaching in new ways, and probably seeks roughly the press coverage he's getting.

It's also true that Francis' framework is pastoral rather than political. But his plain language tilts leftward in ways that no serious reader can deny.

Finally, it's true that there is no

Catholic position on, say, the correct marginal tax rate, and that Catholics are not obliged to heed the pope when he suggests that global inequality is increasing when the statistical evidence suggests otherwise.

But the church's social teaching is no less an official teaching for allowing room for disagreement on its policy implications. And for Catholics who pride themselves on fidelity to Rome, the burden is on them - on us - to explain why a worldview that inspires left-leaning papal rhetoric also allows for right-of-center conclusions.

That explanation rests, I think, on three ideas. First, that when it comes to lifting the poor out of poverty, global capitalism, faults and all, has a better track record by far than any other system or approach.

Second, that Catholic social teaching, properly understood, emphasizes both solidarity and subsidiarity - that is, a small-scale conservative preference for local efforts over national ones, voluntarism over bureaucracy.

Third, that on recent evidence, the most expansive welfare states can crowd out what Christianity considers the most basic human goods - by lowering birth-rates, discouraging private charity and restricting the church's freedom to minister in subtle but increasingly consequential ways. This Catholic case for limited government, however, is not a case for the Ayn Randian temptation inherent to a capitalism-friendly politics.

There is no Catholic warrant for valorizing entrepreneurs at the expense of ordinary workers, or for dismissing all regulation as unnecessary and all redistribution as immoral.

And this is where Francis' vision should matter to American Catholics who usually cast ballots for Republican politicians. The pope's words shouldn't inspire them to convert en masse to liberalism, or to worry that the throne of Peter has been seized by a Marxist anti-pope.

But they should encourage a much greater integration of Catholic and conservative ideas than we've seen since "compassionate conservatism" collapsed, and inspire Catholics to ask more - often much more - of the Republican Party, on a range of policy issues.

Here my journalist friend's "loyal opposition" line oversimplified the options for Catholic political engagement.

His Catholic liberalism didn't go into eclipse because it failed to let the Vatican dictate every jot and tittle of its social agenda. Rather, it lost influence because it failed to articulate any kind of clear Catholic difference, within the bigger liberal tent, on issues like abortion, sex and marriage. Now the challenge for conservative Catholics is to do somewhat better in our turn, and to spend the Francis era not in opposition but seeking integration - meaning an economic vision that remains conservative, but in the details reminds the world that our Catholic faith comes first. □



Gifts that reflect the spirit of the season



Nicholas D. Kristof
© 2013 New York Times News Service

This holiday season, instead of giving your mother that instructional video on twerking that you think she is pining for, what about giving her something that will really make her dance? Like, say, a savings account for a struggling American kid? Or a literacy class for an Afghan woman?

It's time for my annual guide to holiday giving, and, as always, I'm focusing on creative programs here in the United States and abroad that you may not have heard of. By all means, buy one year of schooling for a girl in Ethiopia through the International Rescue Committee (gifts.rescue.org) or a flock of geese for a family through Heifer International (heifer.org), or donate to some other well-established charity. But here are some other ideas, too:

Let's start with helping prevent unwanted pregnancies here at home. When kids have kids, it's often a disaster for both the mom, who drops out of school, and for the child, who starts life with a huge disadvantage. That's a way that poverty self-replicates - and that's the cycle that the Carrera Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program tries to interrupt.

Carrera is a school curriculum devised by a New York City education expert, Dr. Michael Carrera, who recognized that it's not enough to hand out condoms.

One also needs to give kids in high-poverty neighborhoods a stake in a better future, a reason to think that they can succeed. So the curriculum includes comprehensive sex education but also financial literacy, job preparation and summer internships, SAT coaching, and much more. The program has now spread to more than 20 states, and follow-up studies suggest that it reduces pregnancy rates by half. For \$50, you can fund a student's college savings account, part of the financial literacy element (information is at childrensaid-society.org). Half a world away, the United States is pulling troops out of Afghanistan, and the next few years may be a tough time for Afghan women and girls. So consider the Afghan Institute of Learning, founded by an extraordinary Afghan woman named Sakena Yacoobi.

Yacoobi has been running empowerment and training programs for Afghan women and girls since the 1990s, when it was illegal, and there's nothing more threatening to Taliban values than a girl with a book. It's also a bargain: \$65 pays for a year of literacy classes for a woman or girl. More information is available at AfghanInstituteofLearning.org.

You can buy a hand-embroidered scarf, made by widows in Kandahar, Afghanistan, for \$50, and other gifts for under \$30, at GlobalGoodsPartners.org. It has many other gift possibilities made by people all over the world. If you share my belief that education is the best escalator out of poverty, you might look at a terrific scholarship program I just visited in Haiti called HELP, for Haitian Education and Leadership Program.

HELP searches across Haiti for the most outstanding high school students from disadvantaged backgrounds - only those with an A average can apply - and sends them to college, while also providing counseling, English and computer tutoring and stipends.

HELP students are expected to give back, and, to make the program more sustainable, they pledge to contribute 15 percent of their earnings for their first nine years of employment. Information is at UHelp.net.

A final suggestion is Reach Out and Read, a literacy program for the disadvantaged that uses doctors to encourage moms and dads to read to their children. During checkups, the doctors hand out free books and leaflets promoting bedtime stories - and, in effect, "prescribe" reading to the child. It's a simple intervention but has far-reaching effects. Randomized controlled trials, the gold standard of evaluation, find that families in the program are more likely to describe reading as a child's favorite activity, and reading aloud is more likely to be part of family life. Because books are donated by publishers like Scholastic, \$50 covers a child's costs for five years. Information is at ReachOutandRead.org.

I'm delighted to issue an invitation for applicants for my 2014 win-a-trip contest. As in previous years, I'll choose a university student in the United States to accompany me on a reporting trip to the developing world. The winner will also write for a blog and make videos for The New York Times.

In past years, I've taken student winners to report on malnutrition in Timbuktu and to have dinner with a warlord in Congo. Together, we've covered leprosy, maternal mortality, river blindness, malnutrition, breast-feeding and the Darfur genocide. I'm looking for an outstanding student who can make such issues resonate among other students.

Information on how to apply is on my blog, nytimes.com/onthe-ground. Thanks to the Center for Global Development in Washington for helping me screen applications. If you know university students who might be great reporting companions, please nudge them to apply. □

Rebuilding New Orleans, One Meal At A Time

SHAILA DEWAN

© 2013 New York Times

NEW ORLEANS - By one count there were already 65 restaurants on the three miles of Magazine Street, a major artery through this city's upscale districts. But on a recent Monday, diners were eager for No. 66. The minute the lights went on at Ivy, an autumnal little lounge with an as-seen-on-TV chef, the curious were at the door.

This city, of course, has always been food-obsessed. But these days it has

for us in the restaurant business."

Economically speaking, the restaurant boom is a barometer of a city that is more affluent and more educated than it used to be. "Richer cities have more restaurants per capita," said Jed Kolko, the chief economist of Trulia, the real estate website, who said New Orleans already ranked 14th in the nation on restaurants per person in 2010, just a few years into the recent boom (San Francisco was No. 1).

"The main difference between those clusters and the restaurant cluster is they're all selling a service outside the city," said Enrico Moretti, an economist at the University of California, Berkeley. But to the degree that the restaurants provide food to tourists, he said, they can be counted as exporters. New Orleans may not have much of a manufacturing base, but it sells boatloads of gumbo to millions of visitors.

To be sure, the newcomers on the restaurant scene do

straight-faced waitress described a special involving "roast broccoli in a purée of broccoli."

But the old standbys have not been left out of the action. Several of the city's most distinguished French Quarter dining rooms, with their hexagonal floor tiles and bentwood chairs, are under new ownership. John Georges, a grocery distribution magnate, newspaper publisher and recent political hopeful who bought the storied Galatoire's, opened a new restaurant,

operating officer. Next year, the group plans to open three new restaurants, two in the suburbs and one in the Quarter.

Despite the abundance of competition, banks have not reduced financing for new establishments, said Jeff Ehlinger, a senior vice president at First Bank and Trust in New Orleans. "That might happen, but it's not currently happening," he said. "Most of these restaurants would have to start going by the wayside, and right now they're doing pretty well." Increased tourism explains part of the industry's success. It has been on the rebound, with 9 million visitors last year who spent, according to the New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau, \$6 billion, up from a low of \$2.8 billion in 2006. Adjusted for inflation, last year's total was about the same amount as visitors spent in 2004, the year before the hurricane.

Back then, though, the city had only 809 restaurants. Now it has almost 1,400, which means locals are also driving a lot of the new business. Many of the new places are far from the areas tourists frequent, like Brisbi's and the Blue Crab, both perched on tall stilts and hoping to resurrect a tradition of lakefront seafood dining that was wiped out by Katrina.

Thanks to the rebuilding boom after the storm, New Orleans largely escaped the recession, losing far fewer jobs than the country as a whole. But the city lost many of its poor families and attracted, in their stead, what are sometimes called YURPs: Young Urban Rebuilding Professionals.

Though the median household income in New Orleans is still below the national average, the population has more college degrees and more households that earn over \$75,000 a year than it did before the storm.

So eating out is more popular than ever. For two decades, Patrick Singley was satisfied with owning a single small restaurant known as a launching pad for new chefs. □



Guests at Ivy, a concept restaurant, making its debut in New Orleans in November, 2013. Eight years after Hurricane Katrina, the restaurant industry has become the backbone of the city, becoming what the financial industry is to Wall Street or high-tech is to Silicon Valley.

(Cheryl Gerber/The New York Times)

reached new levels of insatiability. Though the city has fewer people than it did before Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005, it has 70 percent more restaurants, according to a count by Tom Fitzmorris, a local expert who does not include fast-food or chain restaurants in his tally.

"It's really something," said Fitzmorris, between callers to his three-hour daily radio show about eating out. "It has never stopped going up, even in the summer, which is not a good time

At the same time, the high concentration of restaurants here has built on itself, as chefs are attracted to a city where eating out is so popular and the most successful ones expand. In that sense, it represents an industry cluster along the lines of the financial industry on Wall Street or high technology in Silicon Valley. More than 10 percent of the jobs in the metropolitan area are in the restaurant business, compared with an average of 8.2 percent nationwide.

not necessarily bother with traditional notions of New Orleans fare. They include Vietnamese storefronts and austere chic establishments that could as easily be in Brooklyn or Chicago. An Israeli-owned steakhouse that just opened in the French Quarter sets prices according to how long the beef has been aged. A place in the gentrifying Bywater neighborhood tells customers the original longitude and latitude of the street food on the menu. At another, a

Galatoire's 33 Bar & Steak, next door. The lobster thermidor is \$52.

In March, a group of brothers who got their start with a chain of frozen daiquiri bars acquired the 93-year-old Broussard's and spent over \$1 million refurbishing it. The group, Creole Cuisine Restaurant Concepts, owns nine French Quarter restaurants, including a new po' boy shop. Sales are up 13 percent compared with the same period last year in the same locations, said Zeid Ammari, the chief op-